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Celebrity pg 22

Hairdressing not Affleck's strong suit

The world's largest global newspaper

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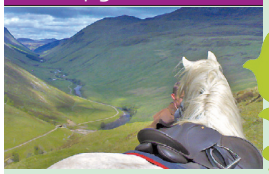
OTTAWA • WEDNESDAY, APRIL 22, 2009 tron/w.ca

Comment

Earth Day's word on the street

pg 5

Travel pg 14



Rural Scotland's magnificence

EARTH DAY: APRIL 22

GoGreen

Metro is marking Earth Day with a series of articles to get you to Go Green:

COMMENT AND VIEWS. Paul Sullivan weighs in on what a fatter planet will mean for the environment. Page 5.

GO GREEN. Metro's special Earth Day section takes a look at environmental issues around the world — from what changing climates mean to wine producers, to the effect plastic is having on our oceans. Pages 7-10.

METRO DRIVE. We take a look at Toyota's reinvented Prius hybrid. Page 15.

ENTERTAINMENT. Our movie reviewer takes a look at the new documentary Earth. Page 20. Harrison Ford lets us in on his new green initiative. Page 21.

ONLINE. Visit metronews.ca for more Earth Day stories.

In honour of Earth Day, Metro Ottawa will be published on recycled paper every day this week.

Happy Earth Day

Albert Einstein famously predicted that if bees were to cease to exist, humans could last only four years after the last bee died.

A shocking estimation, but these pollinators truly make our ecosystems work.

What's frightening is that the world's pollinators, predators, prey, vegetation and oceans that we rely on for food, oxygen and water are at risk.

Which is precisely why Metro is dedicating this year's annual Green Metro to the topic of biodiversity — a term that, quite simply put, means the vast variety of plants, animals and natural resources found on Earth.

Like bees.

So read on — and plant a garden. Ride your bike. Remember the oceans, the bees, the worms — they are your neighbours ... and our heroes.

MAGGIE SAMWAYS/METRO WORLD NEWS

Jeff Beck set to kick off July's Bluesfest

PARTY Kiss, Ludacris and the Stone Temple Pilots will be rocking Cisco Ottawa Bluesfest this year.

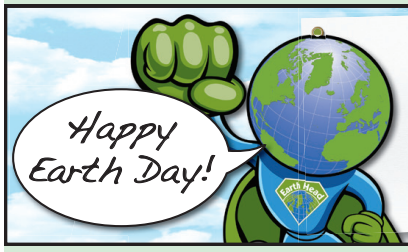
And that's just three of the more than 2,000 blues, R&B, soul, gospel, pop, world and rock musicians descending on LeBreton Flats for 12 days this July.

Ottawa Bluesfest will release its lineup this morning, announcing that Jeff Beck will kick off Bluesfest on July 8 on the Bank of America Stage at 9:30 p.m. Amos the Transparent, Ottawa's Amanda Rheaume and Sergeant Garcia are among the opening acts that night.

Other acts taking to one of six stages include feminist icon Ani DiFranco, the Arkells, Montreal trip-hop duo Beast and Blue Rodeo. Eclectic acts like Brian Setzer Orchestra will be playing along with American Hasidic Jewish reggae rapper Matisyahu.

Tickets go on sale at 10 a.m. this Saturday.

TIM WIECLAWSKI/METRO OTTAWA



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Where the aliens live
Area students celebrated the International Year of Astronomy at the Canada Science and Technology Museum yesterday by displaying Martian habitats they designed and constructed. METRO OTTAWA

Local

Women's hockey

Ottawa will play host to an exhibition game between Canada's national women's team and Team USA at Scotiabank Place Friday, Jan. 1, 2010, Hockey Canada announced yesterday. This match-up is the last in a six-game series between the world's top women's teams in preparation for the 2010 Olympic Winter Games in Vancouver. METRO OTTAWA

Sentence delayed

Judge wants more time to review Kuehl case

TRACEY TONG
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A 27-year-old Ottawa woman who pleaded guilty to infanticide in February will have to wait until August for sentencing.

Justice Lynn Ratushny delayed Angela Kuehl's expected sentencing yesterday in order to further study the evidence in the case.

According to Crown prosecutor Louise Dupont, Kuehl learned that she was pregnant in December 2006 or January 2007. She denied being pregnant, wearing baggy clothing to disguise her condition.

In the early hours of April 29, 2007, she delivered a baby boy in the downstairs bathroom of the house she shared with her common-law boyfriend. She tied a plastic bag over the baby's head and put the body in the garbage.

She then realized that she had done something wrong, but it was too late, Dupont said. "She attempted to resuscitate him, unsuccessfully," she said.

"Imprisonment is rarely imposed ... Society knows how it feels about infanticide."
Crown prosecutor Louise Dupont

Kuehl told police that the child was stillborn and deformed, but an autopsy concluded that the baby was live-born and died from asphyxiation.

Police arrested Kuehl in October 2007.

"While an act of infanticide is rare, the facts of this case are fortunately not unique," said Dupont.

While there is no minimum sentence, the maximum sentence is five years, Dupont said.

"Imprisonment is rarely imposed," she said.

In cases like this, there is no need to make an example, said Dupont. "Society knows how it feels about infanticide."

A mitigating factor is Kuehl's remorse, Dupont said.

Kuehl has complied with the Crown's request that she name her baby, who she called Noah, and to give him a proper burial.

The Crown and defence attorney Rodney Sellar agreed on a recommended sentence of one year house arrest followed by two years of probation and 200 hours of community service.

"Afterward, she realized she had made a horrible mistake," said Sellar. "She regrets it, her family regrets it, everybody regrets it."

When the judge asked if she had anything to say, Kuehl — who held her father's hand tightly and was also accompanied by her mother, sister, friends and her new boyfriend — stood and said, "I'm extremely sorry."

"I recognize it's very difficult and very emotional for everyone involved," said Ratushny. "I do need time to look at all the material and the issue of your moral blameworthiness."

The sentencing is scheduled for Aug. 25.

TIM WIECLAWSKI/METRO OTTAWA

Toronto student Jothi Sanmugam leads more than 30,000 Tamil supporters on Parliament Hill yesterday in a call for the Canadian government to pressure the Sri Lankan government for a ceasefire in a decades-long civil war.

33,000 Tamil supporters descend on Parliament Hill

TIM WIECLAWSKI
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"Right now the flag is not important. It's important to save our people."
Jothi Sanmugam, protester

PROTEST In the largest gathering since the protest began two weeks ago, tens of thousands of Tamil supporters crowded onto Parliament Hill yesterday demanding the Canadian government do more to stop what they are calling genocide in Sri Lanka.

The RCMP estimates that the crowd reached as many as 33,000 people on the Hill. To supplement police, organizers had their own crowd-control personnel to ensure traffic was not obstructed.

In previous demonstrations, many protesters flew Tamil Eelam flags, which are associated with the Tamil Tigers, a group listed as a terrorist organization by the Canadian government.

None of those flags were out yesterday, since the government had stated that no MP would support the cause while that flag was out.

"Right now the flag is not important. It's important to save our people," said Jothi Sanmugam, a student from Toronto, who led the crowd in chanting, "Honourable prime minister, don't be silent!"

Shortly before 1 p.m., NDP Leader Jack Layton addressed the crowd, saying the Canadian government should be insisting journalists be allowed in the war zone and use every tool at its disposal to enforce a ceasefire.

The Canadian government has called for a ceasefire in Sri Lanka, but Sanmugam said it was not enough. She said the government could impose economic sanctions and demand the Sri Lankan government allow media access to the war zone.

With no media to witness the fighting, Sanmugam said the ruling government is distorting the truth about events in Sri Lanka.

ShareYourViews
ottawaletters@metronews.ca

Full disclosure sought

TIM WIECLAWSKI
tim.wieclawski@metronews.ca

VOTE Before city council votes on entering into a sole-source partnership to reshape Lansdowne Park, one councillor is calling for his colleagues to disclose campaign contributions from stadium proponents.

"The public needs to know if there is any financial relationship between councillors who are voting and their electoral contributions," said Capital Ward Coun. Clive Doucet.

"I know that many councillors take substantial contributions and in this case, I think the public needs to know what the nature of them are," he said.

Doucet is planning to table a motion at the next council meeting asking those members of council who have received campaign contributions from the proponents of unsolicited stadium proposals to declare their status.

Doucet said he does not take money from developers.

Orleans Coun. Bob Monette called Doucet's motion "grandstanding" and said he was insulted by the inference that any councillor would jeopardize the future of the city for a minor campaign contribution.

metronews.ca
What's online today.

Video Tamil protesters rally on Parliament Hill at **metronews.ca/canada**

Video Passengers on a CanJet flight hijacked in Jamaica reunite with family at **metronews.ca/canada**

Lotteries

Ontario Pick 3: 6 9 8; **Ontario Pick 4** : 9 0 7 5
Encore: 2842742
Daily Keno: 5, 11, 12, 15, 22, 24, 27, 28, 30, 32, 33, 37, 38, 42, 48, 50, 51, 64, 66, 70
These results are not official.

Local named for Petro-Canada program
Olympic water polo hopeful Jessica Gaudreault was named for the 2009 Petro-Canada Fueling Athlete and Coaching Excellence program. METRO OTTAWA

TRACEY TONG/METRO OTTAWA

Liberal Leader Michael Ignatieff, left, greets Holocaust survivor, Estera Cynamon, 90, of Toronto and her daughter, Susan Goldman, at the Canadian Community Holocaust Remembrance Day Ceremony at the Canadian War Museum yesterday.

Recalling a dark past

Holocaust survivors gather at Canadian War Museum

TRACEY TONG
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In remembering the crimes of the past, hundreds of Holocaust survivors, dignitaries and members of the public who packed the Canadian War Museum yesterday afternoon were taking a step in ensuring it never happens again.

"To remember is not about revenge," said Ottawa's Rabbi Reuven Bulka with Congregation Machzikei Hadas at the Canadian Community Holocaust Remembrance Day Ceremony yesterday. "To remember is not about vindictiveness."

In 25 or 30 years, there may be no more Holocaust survivors, but we still have to remember, Bulka said.

"We always have to remember so that the evil never rears its head again," he said.

"To remember is not about revenge."
Rabbi Reuven Bulka

With help from members of Parliament and senators, survivors living in Ottawa and those who travelled from as far as Toronto and Montreal laid wreaths to remember the Holocaust as Jewish war veterans, ambassadors from about 50 countries, community leaders and members of the public looked on.

"We stand here to honour the Canadians that survived the Holocaust," said Dr. Joel Dimitry, national chairman of the National Holocaust Day Committee.

"Their courage allowed them to rebuild their lives."

Dimitry said he was proud to live in a country where its leaders "not only take time to honour Holocaust survivors, but invest in education."

Canadians must withdraw all support for those who promote hatred, said Minister of Citizenship, Immigration and Multiculturalism Jason Kenney.

"When these things happen, silence is not a moral option," he said. "We must not be neutral."

"We will never forget what happened to us," said Bloc Québécois Leader Gilles Duceppe.

"We hope for a day when war and bloodshed cease … when humankind will not know war," said Liberal Leader Michael Ignatieff.

Snowfall leads city into deficit

BUDGET A hangover from the record snowfall from the previous winter, the fuel price rollercoaster and missed efficiency targets resulted in a $26-million deficit for 2008 for the City of Ottawa.

A complex manoeuvring of cash from the city's reserve funds will cover the shortfall.

Because of the record snowfall, the city had been projecting a deficit since March. During the summer when fuel prices peaked, the city was forecasting a shortfall of $31 million.

The drop in gas prices and extra revenue from municipal tax assessments helped bring that amount down.

TIM WIECLAWSKI/ METRO OTTAWA

Shutterbug hits gallery

PHOTOS For as long as people have been taking photographs, photographers have looked at single-exposure shots with a sense of dissatisfaction.

"You look at the contact sheet and look at the different exposures of the same subjects, and historically, you're able to select one," said Scott McFarland.

But thanks to digital photography, photographers are able to change elements of an image by combining multiple exposures.

And to the 33-year-old Toronto-based photographer and artist, that means choice.

McFarland — who has become renowned for his well-constructed photographs over 10 years of working in the medium — is currently being featured at the National Gallery of Canada.

McFarland takes photographs of places he visits and finds interesting. Through combining multiple exposures, he tries to explain the different aspect of the spaces, he said.

The 36 works profiled in Scott McFarland: A Cultivated View — at the National Gallery through Sept. 13 — are "incredibly detailed," said exhibit curator Andrea Kunard. "And he has mastered the art of combining the negative to create a world which is a little too perfect, and you begin to question this view and whether or not it can possibly be real."

TRACEY TONG/METRO OTTAWA

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Venezuelan opposition leader seeks asylum in Peru
Venezuela's top opposition leader Manuel Rosales has fled to Peru and requested political asylum to escape corruption charges he says are retaliation for his criticism of Venezuelan President Hugo Chavez. REUTERS

Canada/World

Ignatieff invited to Afghanistan summit

HUMAN RIGHTS Liberal Leader Michael Ignatieff is off to Washington to take part in an exclusive and high-level discussion on the future of Afghanistan, Torstar News Services has learned.

Ignatieff will join Richard Holbrooke, the U.S. special envoy for Afghanistan and Pakistan, and other diplomats at a closed-door meeting tomorrow looking at stabilizing the region through measures such as negotiating with the Taliban, reining in Pakistan, shutting down drug production and closer co-operation with neighbouring states.

Ignatieff

The Liberal leader is participating as an international human rights expert, said Jill Fairbrother, his spokesperson. But he feels compelled to attend the event because of what he perceives as the absence of the Conservative government in the debate about the future of the country.

Ignatieff has first-hand experience of the Taliban's reign in Afghanistan, having flown into Kabul in 1997. He has since penned articles about how to deal with a group that cares nothing for human rights, nor its reviled reputation. TORSTAR NEWS SERVICES

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Don't miss this rare, incredible opportunity to study with one of the world's true masters and teachers of natural healing. Register now, seats are going fast!

SIPHIWE SIBEKO/REUTERS

An ANC election poster is seen on public toilets in Kliptown informal settlement a day before the South African election yesterday.

Big turnout called for at South African polls

Jacob Zuma called for a huge turnout for South Africa's election today to give his ruling African National Congress an overwhelming mandate in its toughest test since the end of apartheid.

Zuma is expected to become president after the ballot of 23 million South Africans, but the ANC risks losing the two-thirds majority in parliament it needs to change the constitution in the face of a new opposition party formed by ANC dissidents.

"We anticipate a massive turnout and we expect that the people of this country will once again give the ANC a huge and decisive mandate to work together with them to further improve their lives," he said.

Zuma, who had corruption charges against him dropped this month, declined to comment on his potential cabinet.

Businesses are worried Zuma may veer away from policies credited with delivering years of economic growth because he owes his rise to forces such as the trade unions on the left of the party. Zuma has said there will be no dramatic change of direction, and his room to move is limited by the global financial crisis. REUTERS

Election issues

- Opposition parties have been trying to capitalize on growing frustration with poverty, crime and AIDS, as well as concern about corruption.

Sri Lankan troops move in on Tamil Tigers, 62,000 flee

CIVIL WAR Sri Lankan soldiers battled into the last redoubt of the rebel Tamil Tigers yesterday as the exodus of people fleeing the war zone reached more than 62,000, the military said.

The Red Cross warned the situation was "nothing short of catastrophic" and urged both sides to prevent further mass casualties among civilians, saying hundreds had been killed in the past 48 hours.

The military's noon deadline for the Liberation Tigers of Tamil Eelam (LTTE) to surrender passed without word from the separatists, who vowed no surrender hours later.

Sri Lanka's military, in what it dubbed the world's largest hostage rescue operation, went in to keep the stream of people moving and give troops a clear shot at the LTTE. REUTERS

Obama nudges Israel on Palestine

ISRAEL U.S. President Barack Obama nudged Israeli Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu to accept the goal of a Palestinian state, asking Israel and Palestinians to "step back from the abyss."

Deepening his role in reviving peace efforts, Obama met Jordan's King Abdullah, and set up talks with Netanyahu, Palestinian President Mahmoud Abbas and Egyptian President Hosni Mubarak. REUTERS

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Comment & Views

Comment

Lose weight, save planet

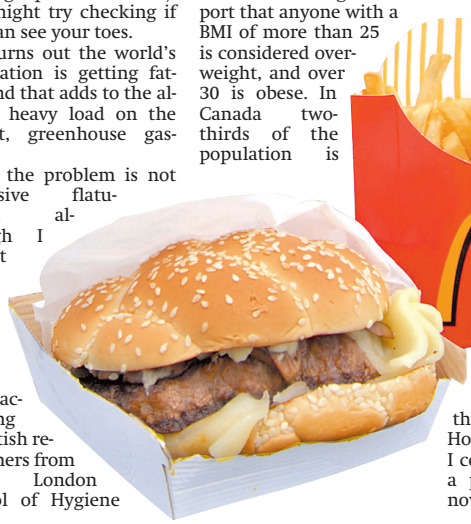
TheWestView

Happy Earth Day. If you're looking for something useful to do today (other than picking up a free coffee), you might try checking if you can see your toes.

It turns out the world's population is getting fatter, and that adds to the already heavy load on the planet, greenhouse gas-wise.

No, the problem is not excessive flatulence, although I expect that doesn't help. The problem, according to British researchers from the London School of Hygiene and Tropical Medicine, is the fatter we get, the more likely we are to use our cars to get around and the more fuel those cars have to burn to haul our sorry butts around.

There is no doubt the species is increasing in bulk. Between 1994 and 2004 in England, the average body mass index (BMI) increased from 26 to 27.3 for men and 25.8 to 26.9 for women. I regret to report that anyone with a BMI of more than 25 is considered overweight, and over 30 is obese. In Canada two-thirds of the population is overweight and one-quarter is obese. South of the border, birthplace of the Big Mac, 40 per cent are obese.



The British researchers estimate one billion lean people will emit one billion fewer tonnes of carbon dioxide a year than one billion fat people.

So how's that for an incentive? Lose weight; save the planet.

I confess I've already been inadvertently saving the planet. I started losing weight this January when I realized there was no way I was going to run the Vancouver Marathon in time to qualify for the Boston Marathon, the Holy Grail of marathons, if I continued to weigh in at a porky 205 pounds. So now I weigh 179, with a BMI of 24.3. Mother Earth has yet to send me a thank-you card even though I check the mail every day, but I guess she's pretty busy shouldering the increased load.

EARTH DAY: APRIL 22
Go Green

OK, maybe she won't notice the reduction, but you've got to start somewhere. I have to admit I haven't felt this, uh, bouncy in years. It may not be enough to beat four hours in the marathon on May 3, which is what I need to do to qualify for Boston, but lumbering around the streets of Vancouver for 26 miles at 205 pounds is no fun. For so many reasons, light is right.

So Canada, I dare you. Take the challenge: Look down. No toes? Then it's time to get off the couch, get out of the car, and put one foot in front of the other. Take a load off Mother Earth … and yourself.

Paul Sullivan is a Vancouver-based journalist and owner of Sullivan Media Consulting; vancouverletters@metronews.ca.

MICHAEL DE ADDER

Worth mentioning

Plug in cars clean, but face many hurdles

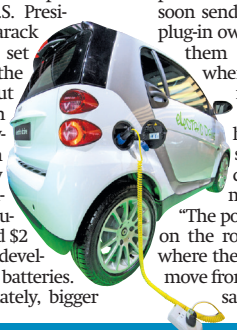
EARTH DAY: APRIL 22
Go Green

Although the U.S. is pushing the use of plug-in hybrids, cost and infrastructure hurdles could keep them out of the mainstream for years.

The cars, which sip gasoline and are low in greenhouse gas emissions, have large batteries which can be recharged at home with an extension cord.

The big batteries allow plug-ins to depend more on electricity, the use of which emits less carbon dioxide per unit of energy than petroleum products do, even if the power comes from coal, said Dan Santini, an expert at the Department of Energy's Argonne National Laboratory.

The federal government is pushing development of plug-ins. U.S. President Barack Obama has set a goal for the U.S. to put one million plug-in hybrid cars on the road by 2015. Obama's stimulus plan had $2 billion for development of batteries.



Unfortunately, bigger batteries are expensive, take four to eight hours to recharge and have limited range, so many owners will want to charge them at home and at work. That means a network of charging stations would have to be built for the cars to catch on.

The good news is the U.S. should have plenty of electricity capacity. Mike Waters, an efficiency expert at Progress Energy said a "smart grid," that can send information from power plants to customers, could soon send pricing signals to plug-in owners to encourage them to stop charging when peak power demand nears.

And though the hurdles are high, some companies could clear them as more cars are built. "The point is to get (them) on the road so we can see where the problems are and move from there," Pritchard said. REUTERS

Word on the street: In celebration of Earth Day, what's the biggest lifestyle change you've made to help the environment?

Cory Leblanc
age 32, Ottawa
A: I recycle everything. By the end of the week I only have one or two small white garbage bags.

Carl Hymander
age 36, Ottawa
A: Just driving less and walking more.

Britta Hebbern
age 28, Ottawa
A: We've always recycled and all that jazz. We take our bikes everywhere.

Carolyn Slade
Halifax
A: I'm trying to remember each day to drive less … even a little bit is going to make a difference.

Samantha Stricker
age 25, Vancouver
A: The biggest change I made was selling my car. I use transit, my roller-blades or I'll walk.

Ambrosia MacDonald
age 32, Edmonton
A: We recycle everything. We only throw away one bag of trash every two weeks.

It's your turn to tell others what you think. Email your thoughts and opinions to: ottawaletters@metronews.ca
Letters must include sender's full name, address and phone number – street name and phone numbers will NOT be published. We reserve the right to edit letters.

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Hilton gets subpoena over Starwood spying claims

Hilton Hotels Corp. said yesterday it received a federal grand jury subpoena for documents related to allegations that the company stole documents from rival Starwood Hotels & Resorts to develop Hilton's luxury Denizen Hotels. REUTERS

Business

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EDITOR: FERMIN.DESOUZA@METRONEWS.CA

France **Workers raging**

BENOIT TESSIER/REUTERS

An employee of Continental tire factory looks at the guard post that was attacked by workers in Clairoix, France, yesterday, after learning that an attempt to block the planned closure of their plant in court had failed.

Interest rate cut to 0.25%

Bank of Canada surprises markets with record-low reduction

The Bank of Canada took markets by surprise by cutting its benchmark interest rate to a historic low of 0.25 per cent yesterday and saying it was prepared to keep them there for another full year in an aggressive bid to spur a slumping economy.

The central bank, in an unusual move, told markets directly to expect rates to stay at the current level until the end of the second quarter of 2010, assuming inflation remains tame.

It also cut its economic growth forecasts, saying recovery will start in the fourth quarter of this year and not the third quarter, as it predicted in January.

Nonetheless, it suggested that the cumulative rate cuts it has made since December 2007 may be sufficient to help turn the economy around, and that it may not have to print money to buy securities in the market, a policy called quantitative easing.

"I think that they are trying to engineer confidence in Canadian households and businesses that interest rates are going to stay low for the foreseeable future."
Aron Gampel, Scotiabank

It will, however, set out a framework tomorrow for that kind of unconventional policy.

A majority of primary securities dealers had expected rates to hold steady.

"I think that they are trying to engineer confidence in Canadian households and businesses that interest rates are going to stay low for the foreseeable future," said Aron Gampel, deputy chief economist at Scotiabank. REUTERS

Track sale boosts CN Rail

PROFIT A gain from a track sale and other items helped Canadian National Railway Co. post a higher quarterly profit on Monday, offseting the impact of the weak economy.

The railway said it had a net profit of $424 million, or 90 cents a share, in the first quarter.

That compared with $311 million, or 64 cents a share, in the same quarter a year earlier. REUTERS

Business in brief

ECONOMY The economic crisis may be at its worst now and a recovery could follow unless downside risks materialize, euro zone countries are likely to tell a Group of Seven meeting on Friday, a G7 source said.

OIL Oil prices climbed into positive territory yesterday, tracking gains on Wall Street as OPEC-member Iran said the cartel may need to restrict supplies further to thin down brimming global stockpiles.

FRANCE Factory staff in southwestern France freed two managers yesterday more than 24 hours after detaining them to protest against their site's closure. REUTERS

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Projects to keep you busy all year
Earth Day Canada has several year-round programs for Canadians of all ages. Programs include EcoKids, ecoMentors, EcoAction Teams and Toyota Earth Day Scholarship. For more, see earthday.ca. **EARTH DAY CANADA**

Go Green

Join in the fun

More than six million Canadians are expected to join 500 million people in more than 180 countries to celebrate Earth Day events and projects to address local environmental issues. Nearly every school child in Canada will take part in an Earth Day activity. EARTH DAY CANADA

EDITOR: MIKE.DEREZYCKY@METRONEWS.CA

Message from Metro CEO Per Mikael Jensen

To our readers,

We are the world's largest newspaper and whatever we do can impact — every week — 37 million people on four continents.

There are things that only the world's global newspaper can do. Go Green is a great example and Metro is proud to embrace such a huge cause.

And what is Metro doing to Go Green?

The philosophy behind the Metro business plan lends itself to be more green than its paid-for colleagues. Our aim is to reach as many readers as possible with the minimum amount of copies — as opposed to that of a paid-for newspaper, where the number of copies is the key, not readers.

We print our editions on recycled paper when we can — all of our southern European editions are printed on 100 per cent recycled paper — and when we can't, we buy paper from special farms that use less water to grow their trees. We are the news in brief: It takes us fewer pages to bring you all the news you need to read. We turn down the AC and the heat; we put our lights on special timers so they shut off when they can't detect motion.

Additionally, we've begun to explore cycling distribution and test pilot programs to increase our reach without printing more copies.

In addition to our internal and corporate efforts to be greener, as a mass media outlet, Metro can use its powerful reach to pull together our readers' will to be green into real action by providing resources, information and communities that encourage a greener world. And our readers are ready to Go Green from across Canada, to Santiago, to New York, to Prague; Metro will be the booster.

Today's special edition is the first step.

Join us. Go Green with Metro and feel free to join the Facebook group of the same name.

KIND REGARDS,
PER MIKAEL JENSEN
CEO, METRO INTERNATIONAL

How nature can inspire design

Nature has always inspired mankind. Leonardo Da Vinci and the Wright brothers looked at birds in flight to inspire their flying devices.

In the same way, Swiss inventor George de Mestral created Velcro in 1948 by analyzing the burrs stuck to his pants and to his dog's fur after a walk in the countryside.

Today, this science has a name: Biomimicry, a word coined by American researcher Janine Benyus, who published Biomimicry: Innovation Inspired by Nature in 1997.

"Biomimicry, or biomimetics, is all about looking to nature for inspiration and borrowing nature's blueprints, its chemical recipes and ecosystem strategies," says Benyus.

"The natural world is full of hints on how to manufacture in life-friendly ways."
Researcher Janine Benyus

"Why reinvent the wheel when we have optimal solutions in nature that have benefited from 3.8 billion years of field testing and natural selection?"

This idea actually appeals more and more to companies that are trying to find solutions to problems nature has been dealing with since the dawn of life, such as minimizing energy use and manufacturing without toxins.

"The natural world is full of hints on how to manufacture in life-friendly ways," says Benyus.

Nature is full of examples of adaptation, so "when we now talk about the extinction spasm, we're talking about losing wisdom, ideas that we would not normally have thought of," says Benyus.

We can no longer take this wealth for granted. That's why the Biomimicry Institute has initiated a program called Innovation Through Conservation, asking companies to donate a percentage of their proceeds to conserve the habitat of the species they took inspiration from.

Biomimicry proves once more that the loss of biodiversity is a lot more than an animal lover issue.

NADIA LODDO
METRO WORLD NEWS
IN PARIS

Vin-ners and losers

The changing face of wine regions

USA and Canada:
California may become too hot and too dry to produce quality wine. The same goes for Yakima Valley in Washington. The East Coast looks as if it could benefit. The same goes for British Columbia and it's Okanagan Valley.

South Americas:
Both Chile and Argentina are considered winners. The cooler sea currents in the southern hemisphere will be to their advantage, and wine growers such as the well-known Miguel Torres from Spain are buying land here.

Africa:
South Africa looks as if it will suffer less from global warming than most places. However, wine growers are looking to move to the mountains.

Australia, New Zealand:
Many districts are becoming too hot and too dry. Some of the wine growers are moving to mountainous Tasmania where the climate is cooler. In New Zealand, Central Otago on the South Island could become the world's possibly southernmost wine district.

Europe:
The warmest places are in trouble. Spain and Portugal are predicted to be those most likely to suffer. Major wine growers such as Miguel Torres in Spain are moving into the Pyrenees. In districts already affected, growers contemplate exchanging the Tempranillo with other grapes more suited to warmer climates. Italy, too, is suffering, especially places in the south like Sicily. Some local experts advocate irrigation, which is now banned, to save vineyards in Tuscany for instance. In France, it looks as if the west and the south will be affected the most. Growers are moving into higher regions, when possible, or buying land in other countries. For instance, winemakers from the famous Champagne District in France are moving across the English Channel, buying into the chalky regions of southern England. The British Isles are basking in the sun, winemakers are multiplying, the same goes for the amount of land taken up by vineyards. Southern England could be the Champagne District of the future, some experts predict.

Other countries:
Denmark, Sweden, Finland and other countries around the Baltic Sea have so far only had amateur enthusiasts involved in winemaking. But now it is becoming commercial, with some of the wines actually exported to buyers in other countries. However, these countries will possibly still be too cool for large productions, rather they will produce interesting quality wine in small amounts.

Asia:
As surprising as it may seem, China is already the seventh largest wine producing country in the world. And some experts have their eyes on an area northwest of Beijing as one of the most promising — wines from here are already winning prizes at international fairs. So get used to names like Changyu, Dragon Seal, Great Wall or Dynasty.

SOURCES: ASSOCIATE PROFESSOR AND CLIMATOLOGIST GREGORY JONES

Try to cut down on items going to landfills
Approximately 70 per cent of the waste found in landfills could be recycled. Try to compost and recycle all appropriate items. Also, attempt to reduce the amount of packaged goods you purchase. **EARTH DAY CANADA**

Go Green

Every week, **37 million people** in 20 countries read Metro

Imagine if all of those readers — if all of us — banded together to change the world? What a difference 37 million makes ...

Running through the drops
When 37 million people take a five-minute shower, it only uses 3.5 trillion litres of water, compared to a 10-minute shower, which uses seven trillion litres of water.

It's exhaust-ing
When 37 million people use average sedan cars, it emits 2.59 trillion tonnes of CO2 during the lifetime of their cars, as compared with 3.7 trillion tonnes of CO2 if they used SUVs.

Drive me wild
When 37 million drivers leave their cars at home and commute together with their spouses/partners/neighbours, they cause the emission of 107 million tonnes of CO2 annually, compared with 214 million tonnes of CO2 should they decide to use their own cars.

Dot-bomb
When 37 million people do not switch off their computers after work, they use 37 million megawatt hours of electricity annually, compared to around 9.2 million megawatt hours if computers and monitors are switched off after work.

Guess who's coming to dinner?
When 37 million people use modern dishwashers with the best rating once a day, they would use 666 million litres of water, compared with 1.5 trillion litres of water used by less efficient dishwashers.

Flushed away
When 37 million people refurbish their bathrooms with low-flush toilets (six litres per flush), each flush uses 222 million litres of water, compared to old toilets (12 litres per flush), that would take 444 million litres of water to flush collectively.

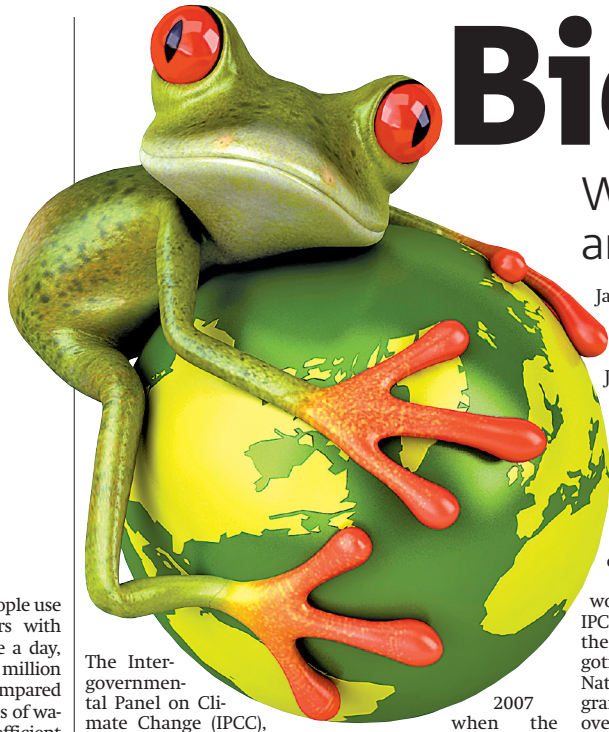
Watt's up, doc?
When 37 million people change just one 100-watt incandescent bulb for a 20-watt compact fluorescent light bulb, giving the same amount of light, during one hour they would be using 740 megawatt hours of energy to receive the same lighting, compared with 3,700 megawatt hours with the regular bulb.

TV stars
When 37 million people unplug their TV sets (1 watt standby) while going to sleep, they would save 296,000 kwh per day.

DANIEL DENISHUK
METRO WORLD NEWS
IN POLAND

Pass it on!

When 37 million people share their newspaper (approximately 0.3 kg of paper), they save 85,248 trees



Bio bias

World moves toward an IPCC in biodiversity

The Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change (IPCC), the scientific body created by the United Nations to evaluate the risk of climate change, has shown how strong an influence scientists all over the world can have on politicians and public opinion when they speak with one voice. This was proven once again in 2007 when the IPCC shared the Nobel Peace Prize with former U.S. vice-president Al Gore, nearly 20 years after its birth.

But what about biodiversity? The lack of recognized scientific expertise in a field just as vital as climate was underlined in January 2005 at an international meeting in Paris by the then-French president Jacques Chirac. Over the past four years, the idea has progressed, and the creation of what will be called the Intergovernmental Platform on Biodiversity and Ecosystem Services (IPBES) is now only a question of time.

"The IPBES should work more or less like the IPCC," says Didier Babin, the researcher who led negotiations until the United Nations Environment Program (UNEP) officially took over the project in February.

Just as the IPCC (which is composed of more than 2,000 scientists worldwide), the IPBES will not carry out research, but will be tasked to publish special reports that gather state-of-the-art studies conducted by recognized scientists around the world. Its main objective is to bring about common indicators that will have an international scope and work as a bridge between the distant worlds of science and politics to make action ... and fast.

"IPCC and IPBES will probably also work together," says Babin, as there are structural links between biodiversity and climate change.

"Think about the rain forests that are immense carbon reservoirs and at the same time among the globe's major biodiversity hot spots."

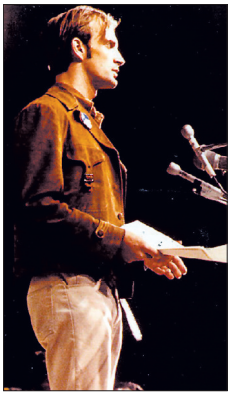
IPBES will certainly have a lot to do in the next few years. A lot of hope is laid in this new panel that should be officially opened in 2010, during what the UN has already labelled the "year of biodiversity."

NADIA LODDO
METRO WORLD NEWS
IN PARIS

Greetings, Earthlings

Founder of Earth Day comes clean on being green

Denis Hayes is the man who made Earth Day a world phenomenon. When Earth Day was launched in 1970, Hayes was its first co-ordinator and turned the environmental day into a series of events attended by 20 million Americans. Twenty years later, Hayes launched the first international Earth Day. Result: 200 million participants in 141 countries. Today, he heads Earth Day Network, which co-ordinates Earth Day activities around the world.


Denis Hayes speaking at the first Earth Day event in 1970.

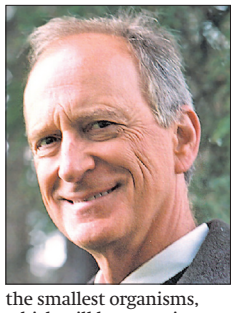
Can the world become greener through a one-day event?
Of course not! We have no illusions about that. What we were doing in 1970 was to get people from very different quarters to act together on problems like lead paint and highway construction. Today, too, people have to recognize that environmental problems don't stop at borders. We should start thinking of ourselves as one species.

"In 1970, most people didn't even think about the environment."

Has the world become greener since 1970?
The United States has become substantially cleaner. We've cleaned up rivers and lakes and saved endangered species. But the world is in poorer shape than it was in 1970, in almost every aspect.

What is Earth Day's biggest accomplishment?
1970 to '74 was the golden era. We passed the environmental laws on which society still operates. Since then its biggest accomplishment has been getting millions of school children involved. Environmentalism has become a part of society. In 1970, most people didn't even think about the environment. Now, it's part of everyone's vocabulary.

What will the next environmental crisis be?
The growing acidification of the world's oceans. It has devastating effects on the smallest organisms, which will have tragic consequences on the whole food chain, including humans.



What is the most immediate environmental danger today?
Carbon emissions.

What is the most important thing people can do to help the environment?
Have no more than one child, or two at most. Live in an energy-efficient house. Walk and ride your bike.

ELISABETH BRAW
METRO WORLD NEWS
IN SAN FRANCISCO

Washing in cold water can help reduce greenhouse gas emissions
Use cold water to wash your clothes. If every household in Canada did this, it would reduce approximately 1.5 billion kilograms of greenhouse gas emissions each year. **EARTH DAY CANADA**

Go Green

Canaries in global coal mine

Their are numerous warning signs that global warming is affecting the Earth as we know it.

Here are some examples:

Adélie penguins

Global warming is affecting the Adélie penguin colonies in the Antarctic peninsula. Over the last 50 years, winter temperatures have risen by about 5 C in the peninsula, reducing the amount of pack ice. Pack ice directly affects the availability of algae available for krill, the main staple of the penguin's diet. Without pack ice, there is no algae and no food for krills — a direct repercussion on the penguin's diet. In the last decade, the population of Adélie penguins has declined by almost 50 per cent.

SOURCE: NATIONAL GEOGRAPHIC

Bees

Scientist Albert Einstein famously said: "If the bee disappears from the surface of the Earth, man would have no more than four years to live. No more bees, no more pollination … no more men!"

Excessive pesticide use in North America has led to a decline of up to 50 per cent of managed colonies of honeybees.

Crops such as apples, pears and berries depend entirely on pollinators for fruit production.

SOURCE: BUMBLEBEE.ORG

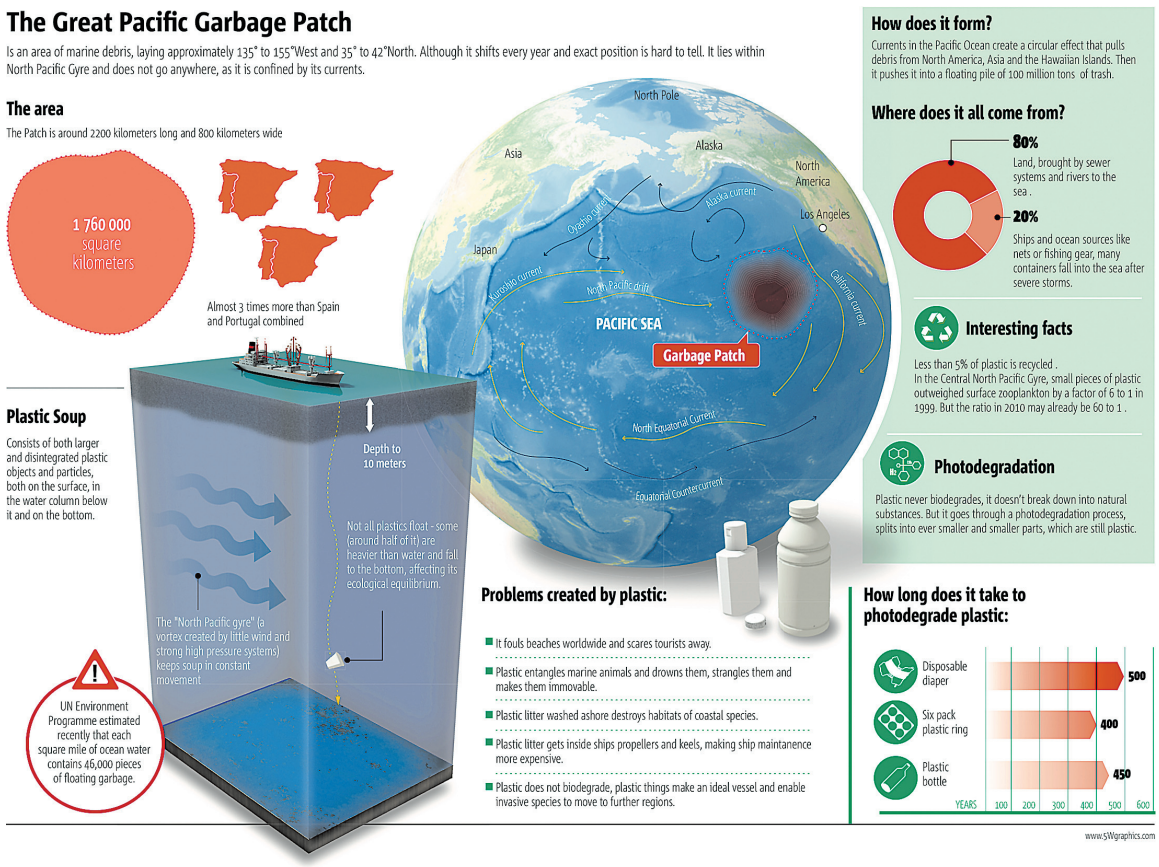
Coral reefs

Coral reefs provide goods and services worth about $375 billion each year — yet the coral ecosystem covers less than one per cent of the Earth's surface.

In fishing, both the food and marine ornamental trade are often caught using cyanide, which stuns fish for easy capture. Cyanide kills the coral and many other coral reef organisms such as coral polyps. Less than half the fish caught with cyanide survive long enough to then be sold to restaurants or aquariums.

SOURCE: PEOPLEANDPLANET.NET

ROMINA MCGUINNESS
METRO WORLD NEWS
IN LONDON



More plastic than plankton

Our oceans are covered in patches of garbage as big as a continent

At the heart of the oceans, areas as big as France, maybe more, are covered in garbage.

The most famous of these is the Great Garbage Patch, discovered in the late 1990s in the North Pacific Ocean between the United States and Asia. But it seems that another seven similar patches may exist, according to Seattle oceanographer Curtis Ebbesmeyer, one of the first scientists to take interest in the strange routes of plastic trash in the sea.

In his new book, Flotsametrics and the Floating World: How One Man's Obsession with Runaway Sneakers and Rubber Ducks Revolutionized Ocean Science, Ebbesmeyer explains his "science of floating objects," or "flotsametrics."

"From a boat, you start seeing everyday objects like toothbrushes and plastic bags on the outskirts of the vortex."
François Chartier, oceans campaign director at Greenpeace France

By observing trash on beaches, such as Nikes or rubber ducks, he identified several circular currents, or gyres, which, like whirlpools, bring together all the plastic and other solid garbage that ends up in the seas around the world.

Ebbesmeyer says the patches of debris may cover a surface "equivalent to several times the United States."

However, the garbage patches are still unrecognized and neglected because they are basically difficult to see.

"From a boat, you start seeing everyday objects like toothbrushes and plastic bags on the outskirts of the vortex," explains François Chartier, director of the oceans campaign at Greenpeace France, the organization that revealed the existence of the Great Garbage Patch to the media.

"When you approach the centre of the patch, the trash is thicker and some birds have actually started nesting on it."

But from the sky, even from satellites, there is "nothing to be seen," says Ebbesmeyer. "It's like tracking a ghost!"

Invisible plastic? Not really. The fact is that most of the pieces are quite see-through, like plastic bags. Others are fractions of bigger pieces of plastic that have disintegrated into bits as small as plankton.

"In the middle of the patch, there is six times more plastic than plankton," Ebbesmeyer says.

This accumulation of plastic in the oceans is a serious menace for the environment and for human health.

"Dolphins suffocate on plastic bags, birds can die of hunger because their stomach is so full of undigested plastic that they can no longer eat," says Chartier.

But plastic also contains toxins (PCBs, heavy metals) that are harmful to humans and that are assimilated by plankton and other fish, which end up in the ocean's food chain, and, consequently, in your seafood chowder.

NADIA LODDO
METRO WORLD NEWS
IN PARIS

Composting can cut down on household waste

Composting can reduce your household waste by approximately 50 per cent. Designate a small household container or bucket for your food scraps and dump the contents into your backyard composter or green bin daily. EARTH DAY CANADA

Go Green

Look after the planet — and look after yourself

Martin Atkin
WWF International

Most of us see trees, gardens, maybe even some fields or a river during our daily commute. Even in the busiest city, we can enjoy some contact with nature. Whether we live in a great rain forest or an urban apartment, our livelihoods — and our lives — depend on keeping the planet's biodiversity in good shape.

The truth is, we've spent our natural capital like there's no tomorrow and now we're faced with the bill. Just as irresponsible borrowing and spending got us into the present economic recession, so we've been piling up ecological debt by consuming and wasting more and more natural resources. If you think the economy is in bad shape, take a look at the planet.

WWF's Living Planet Report tells us that three-quarters of us live in countries that are ecological debtors — using up resources faster than nature can replace them. If we carry on consuming at our current rate, by 2030 we'll need the equivalent of two planets to maintain our lifestyles. Over the past 35 years alone, we have squandered nearly one-third of the Earth's biodiversity. Not only is this hugely damaging for the environment, but it doesn't make any economic sense. One recent report estimates that forest ecosystems alone are worth around $28 billion a year — and a lot of that money is literally going up in smoke.

"The truth is, we've spent our natural capital like there's no tomorrow and now we're faced with the bill."

As we increasingly worry about jobs and mortgages, we may be tempted to ignore the bigger picture. But Amazon deforestation, hungry polar bears and overfished tuna are a challenge for all of us, because protecting natural resources means better food and water security, better human health and a better chance of fighting climate change.

The good news is — we know what needs to be done and we can afford it. We have a unique opportunity to use the trillions of dollars in stimulus packages to create a green global economy that could lift us out of recession, protect natural resources and tackle global warming. The first step is to agree to a fair, fast and effective global deal on climate change in Copenhagen this December. Then, in 2010 — the International Year of Biodiversity — the UN must lead the rest of the world in taking bold steps to reduce consumption and stop biodiversity loss within 10 years.

Earth Day is a good time to think about our shared responsibility to consume and sustain the planet's natural resources wisely — after all, it's in our own interest.

Small creatures do great things

Worms provide vital services to mankind such as working land ... and fighting against global warming

What would we do without worms?

"When we talk about biodiversity, we never really mention worms," says Denis Loyer, deputy director of the French Development Agency (AFD). "But they actually have an essential role in producing food."

Without worms, there would be no fertile lands. Worms are actually one single long digestive tube. Feeding on organic waste, they end up excreting a powerful natural fertilizer. That's how compost heaps work!

If pesticides can be harmful to these hard-working animals, it is surprising to discover that what is really bad for them is working the land. Worms are killed by birds and by the lack of food, while UVs finish the job by destroying all other microscopic life in the soil.

"The difference is enormous: Where land is laboured, you can find up to 50 kilograms of worms per hectare against two to four tonnes on non-laboured agricultural exploitations," says Loyer. Today, many soils are biologically dead, with no more than one per cent of organic substance.

"When we talk about biodiversity, we never really mention worms." Denis Loyer

Chemical fertilizers feed plants but do not rebuild the natural capital of soils. Moreover, worms dig tunnels in the land that allow water to penetrate deeply instead of washing away wastefully — or worse, causing floods. This is why a non-laboured agriculture is being hailed as the future solution to feeding the world.

"A project we have in Tunisia shows that the farms are just as efficient, but have reduced costs thanks to less labour and less chemicals. Moreover, in dry countries, stocking water in the soil is very important," adds Loyer. "This kind of agriculture is growing by 15 per cent per year."

That's good news, and not only for worms. As a matter of fact, some climate change experts believe these shy creatures will also be on the front line tackling climate change.

One worm may be like David against the climate Goliath, but spread them around the world, and you get a result that may equal the benefit of stopping deforestation.

How?

"Organic substance is basically carbon, so like trees stock carbon as they grow, increasing the quantity of organic substance in soils will develop their capacity to sequestrate carbon," says Loyer.

And we all know there's no one that can do that better than worms.

NADIA LODDO
METRO WORLD NEWS
IN PARIS

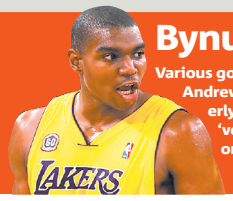
Darwin & worms

• British naturalist Charles Darwin should be remembered for more than his theory on the evolution of the species. The last book he published in 1881 shows how, by many means, he was ahead of his time. With The Formation of Vegetable Mold Through the Action of Worms, he opened the doors of science to a seemly insignificant species: The worm. He had friends and scientists send him samples of worm waste to analyze the benefits of this organic fertilizer. He took his job very seriously and also studied their behaviour — he even played the piano to them to test their hearing. Worms are actually deaf.

Disney nature earth

Hasek back with Czech team
Dominik Hasek is coming out of retirement to play for his former club in the top Czech league. The 44-year-old goaltender will play next season for HC Moeller Pardubice in the town where he was born and started his career. Hasek will be the oldest player in the league. METRO NEWS SERVICES

Sports



Bynum under Rihanna's umbrella?

Various gossip sites and bloggers are reporting that Los Angeles Lakers centre Andrew Bynum is currently dating singer Rihanna. "The couple dined in Beverly Hills. When they left together, a witness reports that they looked 'very couple-y, sitting real close to each other in the car,'" said a report on the Big Lead. METRO NEWS SERVICES

EDITOR: JOHN.CHICK@METRONEWS.CA

NBA Cavs stuff Pistons

AARON JOSEFCZYK/REUTERS

LeBron James guards Detroit's Rodney Stuckey in Game 2 of their playoff series last night. James scored 29 points and had 13 rebounds as Cleveland won, 94-82, to take a 2-0 series lead.

Pens put Flyers on the brink

STANLEY CUP
2009 Playoffs

Marc-Andre Fleury had an outstanding game with 45 saves as the Pittsburgh Penguins took a 3-1 win over the Philadelphia Flyers in Game 4 of the Eastern Conference quarter-finals at Wachovia Center.

Sidney Crosby, Tyler Kennedy and Maxime Talbot each had a goal for the Penguins, who now hold a 3-1 lead in this best-of-seven series. Pittsburgh has a chance to win the series tomorrow in Pittsburgh.

Red Wings 4, Blue Jackets 1

Chris Osgood was terrific between the pipes again, making 31 saves, and Henrik Zetterberg scored twice as Detroit defeated the Blue Jackets, 4-1, to grab a commanding lead in their Western Conference quarter-final series. Dan Cleary registered a goal and two assists and Tomas Holmstrom also tallied for the Red Wings, who have won the first three games and will look to complete the sweep tomorrow in Columbus.

JIM MCISAAC/GETTY IMAGES

Sidney Crosby celebrates his second period goal last night.

Hurricanes 4, Devils 3

Jussi Jokinen tipped in Dennis Seidenberg's point shot at the third-period buzzer to lift Carolina over New Jersey, 4-3, and tie the series at two games apiece.

With the game tied at three in the final minute of regulation, Joni Pitkanen had the puck near the blue line and sent a pass to the right point. Seidenberg blasted a shot with only seconds on the clock, and Jokinen, providing a screen on Devils goaltender Martin Brodeur, redirected it into the net as the buzzer sounded. METRO NEWS SERVICES

For recaps of the Canucks/Blues and Sharks/Ducks series, visit metronews.ca

Radlein not your typical jock

STEPHEN JOHNSON
for Metro Canada

Julian Radlein is not a typical environmental activist. He is a six-foot-two, 245-pound former fullback with the Hamilton Tiger-Cats who was adept at crushing opposing linebackers. But he's also one of Canada's leading advocates for environmental awareness.

Radlein enjoyed a five-year career with Hamilton from 2003 to 2007. During this time, he was active in the Hamilton environmental community. His involvement ranged from encouraging people to eat locally to performing an environmental audit at Ivor Wynne stadium.

Radlein credits his interest in the environment to early exposure.

"My dad was a chemist so I grew up with science and a respect for the environment. I studied ecology at UBC. I like to think of myself not as an environmental activist, but more as a survivalist. Clean air, water and soil are essential to sustaining life."

PHOTO COURTESY JULIAN RADLEIN

Julian Radlein started Evergreen Sports Programming.

EARTH DAY: APRIL 22
Go Green

After retiring from the CFL last year, Radlein formed Evergreen Sports Programming with former Saskatchewan Roughrider Dustin Cherniawski.

The company focuses on delivering an environmental message by using football players as its spokespersons.

The keystone activity of their company is the GreenZone Sustainability Blitz Speaker Series.

"We focus on three pillars of sustainability: Reduce, reuse and recycle," said Radlein.

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INFORMATION FEATURE

Nature, Disney-Style

Disneynature revives tradition of documentary excellence

By Lori Dance

Seeking to capitalize on the recent success of nature documentaries, Disney looked back at its own long-dormant True-Life Adventures division—which not only garnered eight Academy Awards from 1948 to 1960, but also fostered fond memories for generations of schoolchildren—to inspire the first Disney-branded film label in over 60 years.

"Nature invents the most beautiful stories," says Jean-François Camilleri who, besides having been involved with the Academy Award-winning film March of the Penguins, is executive vice president and general manager of Disneynature. "So in a place like the Disney Studios, where storytelling is key, we are going to go and… bring them to the big screen. This was a vision of Walt Disney back in 1948, and this is the vision of Disneynature today."

Director Alastair Fothergill

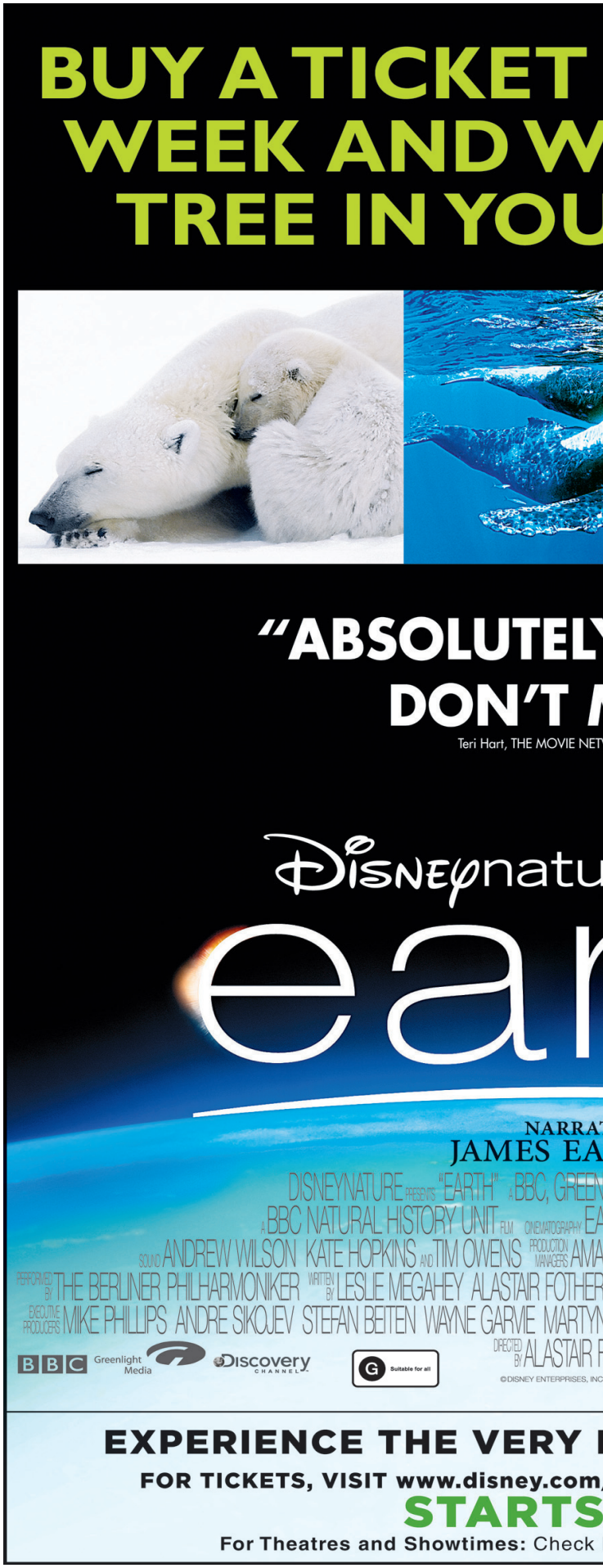
For its first film, EARTH, the Disneynature team looked no further than directors Alastair Fothergill and Mark Linfield, the creative team behind the Emmy Award-winning Planet Earth series, for assistance. "I think EARTH is a perfect film to start the Disneynature series… because it is a portrait of the whole planet," Fothergill asserts. "In over five years, we filmed at over 200 locations in 64 countries worldwide and employed 60 cameramen… Nobody in the history of cinema has ever had so much time, resources, and talent brought together for one true-life feature."

> ***"Nature invents the most beautiful stories"***

Disneynature is developing numerous titles concurrently and plans to release at least one feature-length documentary each year. Oceans, slated for 2010, will rely on new technology to capture detailed underwater drama where few have previously ventured. Big Cats, to be released in 2011, follows three species as they protect and teach their cubs on the great plains of Africa. And the directors of EARTH will reunite for 2012's Chimpanzee, shot over three years in the tropical jungles of the Ivory Coast and Uganda.

To find out more about the Disneynature brand or to download educational materials, visit disneynature.com

We do not inherit the earth from our ancestors,
we borrow it from our children.
~ Native American Proverb



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INFORMATION FEATURE

Three Families, One EARTH

Disneynature's first film explores the animal kingdom from pole to pole

By Lori Dance

On April 22, Disney will celebrate Earth Day with the premiere of the first film in its Disneynature series. Narrated in thrilling detail by James Earl Jones, EARTH follows the journeys of three animal families as they interact with the ever-changing world around them.

On a group of Nordic islands is where you'll meet the polar bears. The world's largest land predators travel hundreds of miles for something to eat, yet they don't drink water. A male ventures far to hunt as a mother emerges from a snow den with her two cubs. The pack ice melts earlier each year, and food is becoming a challenge.

To visit the next family, you'll travel far south as an elephant mother guides her tiny calf across the Kalahari Desert in search of fresh water, of which an adult can drink 50 gallons each day. In this dry season, however, thick clouds of dust threaten to separate them, and they are forced to share what little refreshment they find with hungry lions.

Finally, you'll witness an epic 4,000-mile migration. In tropical waters, a humpbacked whale calf receives over 600 quarts of milk each day, but its mother is starving. The pair set out on the longest journey undertaken by any marine mammal to the southernmost Antarctic waters to feed on krill and small fish before they turn around and journey back to the Equator.

The supporting cast of this story includes, among over 40 other animal species, some painfully adorable mandarin ducklings who, at their mother's urging, fling themselves 30 feet from their nest to the ground. Will they fly? Will they bounce? You'll just have to wait until Earth Day to find out…

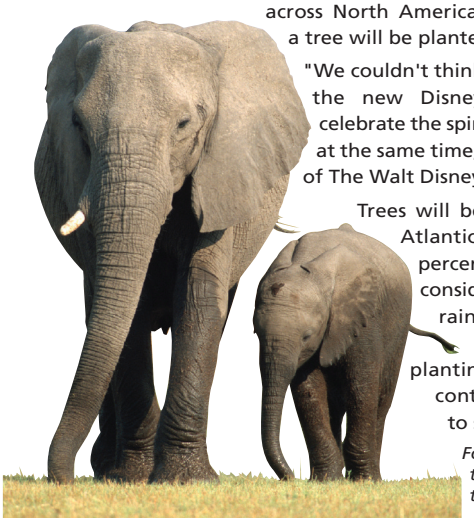
To check out more exclusive and super-cute behind-the-scenes footage of the film's three main families, visit disneynature.com/earth.

Trees for Tickets

Plant yourself in front of EARTH, and Disneynature will plant a tree on Earth

By Lori Dance

Disney and Metro have a convenient truth for you: for every ticket purchased during the opening week of EARTH, being released across North America on Earth Day (April 22), a tree will be planted in your honour.



"We couldn't think of a better way to launch the new Disneynature banner, and to celebrate the spirit of the film and Earth Day at the same time," says Dick Cook, chairman of The Walt Disney Studios.

Trees will be planted in the Brazilian Atlantic Forest which, at only 7 percent of its original capacity, is considered the most endangered rain forest in the world. Disney is overseeing their planting and care, and Metro is contributing advertising space to support the program.

For more information, including ticket availability at your local theatre, visit disney.com/earth.

Disney nature earth

NYC: The Real Deal

Through June 30, New York City visitors can get a buy-one-get-the-second-one-half-off deal at more than 100 businesses and organizations including museums, tours and attractions, arts and entertainment venues, nightlife spots and spas. See nycgo.com/realdeal. METRO NEWS SERVICES

Travel

Aztec exhibit

The British Museum in London will launch an exhibition called Moctezuma: Aztec Ruler on Sept. 24. One of the feature objects will be this turquoise mosaic and cedro wood mask from Mexico, which dates from the 15-16th century AD. Visit britishmuseum.org. REUTERS

TRAVELDESK@METRONEWS.CA

Exploring the Scottish countryside

Natural magnificence is the backdrop to this rural getaway

EMMA E. FORREST
Metro World News

If a rugged wilderness with golden eagles soaring overhead and expansive mountain ranges sounds like a setting that's only on offer in North America, maybe it's time for you to experience the natural magnificence of rural Scotland.

Your adventure should start in London when you board the Caledonian Sleeper train. This overnight train is a magical experience — you step on at London's hectic Euston Station, have a few beers in the bar carriage as you pass though England, put your head down in your cozy bunk, and when you're woken up with a cup of tea at 6 a.m., you find yourself in the wide-open Scottish countryside.

Our destination was Forest Lodge, a Victorian-era hunting lodge on the Atholl estate in Perthshire, in the heart of Scotland. The estate is also home to Blair Castle, which comes complete with suits of armour and hallways full of antlers, and is base to Europe's only private army, the Atholl Highlanders.

We got out in picturesque Pitlochry — where we had to wait for the local taxi company to deliver kids to school before driving us 40 minutes through the snow to the lodge.

Forest Lodge is like something out of an Agatha Christie movie, a huge white house nestled in the crook of the valley. Inside there are comfortable bedrooms, a dining room with a banquet table for 20, a huge kitchen with a larder, and a living room with plump sofas, tartan curtains and an open fire.

METRO WORLD NEWS

Left, on a riding adventure on the Atholl estate in Perthshire. Right, a view of Blair Castle.

There's even a gun room and a drying room where you can air your wet coat and your walking boots after a romp round the countryside. This is an aristocratic weekend without the price tag — the cost of accommodation and food is small when shared, and there's nowhere to squander your hard-earned cash on fancy restaurants, expensive pubs or silly souvenirs.

There is no mobile phone reception, just an ancient payphone with a crackly line, so you are forced to completely switch off.

It pays to plan ahead — there's no way to pop out for milk here. Calculate who's cooking what and you can have exactly what you need delivered by local grocers Tilt Stores. We arrived to find a larder bursting with fresh fruit, vegetables, meat reared on local farms, wine, and even some welcome snacks including shortbread and tablet, a sweet and tasty type of Scottish fudge that hits the spot when you've just hit the one of the local summits.

Deer hunting is a popular activity here — it's also essential for controlling numbers — but we chose a daily hike up the mountains instead.

Armed with an Ordnance Survey map that marks every contour of every elevation, we set off to conquer the nearby munro, the name for a Scottish mountain with a height over 910 metres. Hiking fanatics call it "munro bagging" as they try to tick all 284 munros off their list, but one was more than enough for us novices. The two-hour trek to the top is rewarded with a plateau with mountains stretching for as far as the eye can see.

As well as eagles and grouse, there were flashing white tails of mountain hares darting away, and a huge herd of deer led up a ridge by a stately stag silhouetted against a radiant pink sunset.

After all that fresh air, it's time for for haggis canapés in the lounge, then a four-course banquet of smoked salmon, local lamb and pudding followed by port and cheese.

It would be difficult to leave this place at the end of the weekend, were it not for the fact that going back to London is also part of the adventure — after a full day admiring icicles in the river of the glen, we had another night of sleeper-train fun to keep us in good spirits.

Rural retreat

The Lodge

- Book Forest Lodge through Atholl Estates. There are lodges sleeping different numbers, each about $130 for three nights; athollestates.co.uk.

Getting there

- Book the Caledonian Sleeper from London at scotrail.co.uk. You can get a discount for a group booking (for about $270 a head), or watch for "bargain berths" — each month 1,200 single tickets are sold from £35 apiece.

Food delivery

- Local grocers Tilt Stores will source whatever you need, from fresh produce to wine and locally-sourced meat, tel. 01796 481 206.

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Metro Drive

Canadian student car wins

A student team from Laval University in Quebec topped more than 500 students from North and South America to win the 2009 Shell Eco-marathon Americas. The team took the grand prize in the prototype division, with a combustion-engine vehicle that achieved 1,172.2 km per litre.

METRO NEWS SERVICES

EDITOR: KUMAR SAHA, KUMAR.SAHA@METRONEWS.CA

Toyota Prius a driver's car

Hybrid aims to win hearts without compromising green thinking

ROB BEINTEMA
for Metro Canada

EARTH DAY: APRIL 22
Go Green

I'm standing on the gas, the pedal flat to the floor and that's where it's gonna stay, fuel economy be damned.

We're leaving the flats of the Napa Valley, spiraling up into the Mayacamas, trees and rock face blurring past, engine moaning, tires gripping nicely, only the occasional peep-peep-peep of traction and stability control warnings as I go into a hairpin corner too hot, you know, one of those corners where you almost have to look behind yourself to see where you're going. Then, back on the gas and we are clawing towards yet another curve on the mountain road.

And, no, you're not reading the wrong story.

This is the 2010 Toyota Prius, the third and latest generation of the fuel-efficient, low-emissions hybrid dear to the hearts of the 14,000 or so environmentally-sensitive Canadians who have bought one since its introduction a decade ago.

To build a car that appeals to a broader audience while staying true to the environmental expectations of the faithful, over 2000 engineers worked on a product that boasts a long list of firsts along with over 1000 patents.

The 2010 Prius starts on the MC platform shared with Scion XB. The previous Prius had all the soulless enamor of a science project — econo car trappings and no-nonsense trim topped by a utilitarian little shifter sticking awkwardly out of the dash.

The 2010 Prius is a driver's car, with true cockpit feel courtesy of a raised console in "freeform geometric design", mounting a handsome little shifter that's so cute you just want to hang onto it. The layout is complemented by a sporty oval steering wheel, push button start, new graphic displays, soft touch padded materials, more comfortable seating and a leaf pattern grain texture on dash, door panels and fabric.

But enough about looks, let's get to the meat of the matter.

The Prius' Hybrid Synergy Drive is ninety per cent new for 2010. Unlike most other hybrid vehicles available, Prius has always been a "full" hybrid, allowing it to run on engine alone, battery alone, or both.

The powertrain improvements start with a bigger 1.8-litre DOHC gasoline engine. Other improvements come with the new engine, a lighter electric motor and generator, improved cooling to components, more compact battery packaging, a lighter transaxle, an improved CVT transmission and, importantly for Canada, an exhaust heat recovery system that was wintertested in Timmins, Ont., and that proved to provide quicker warm-up and better cold weather fuel efficiency.

The net result? Twenty-two per cent more power and seven percent less fuel consumption. The 2010 Prius is rated at 3.8L/100km combined, better than the previous model's 4.1L/100km rating.

2010 Toyota Prius

Type: Mid-size hybrid sedan
Price: Not available
Engine: 2ZR-FXE 1.8-litre VVT-I DOHC four-cylinder with electric motor assist (134 hp / 105 lb-ft of torque).
HP: 3.7/4.0/3.8L/100km (city/hwy/comb)

The 2010 Toyota Prius has more room, more power, and, of course improved fuel efficiency.

Nissan roadster unveiled

DEBUT The 2010 Nissan 370Z roadster made its global debut at the recent New York auto show, wowing visitors with its classic open-air sports car looks.

The roadster shares its engine, transmissions, suspension, platform and most major components with the coupe. The cutting-edge technology includes the standard 332-horsepower 3.7-litre DOHC V6 engine and choice of 7-speed automatic transmission or close-ratio six-speed manual with available SynchroRev Match (the world's first synchronized downshift rev matching manual transmission).

"The 370Z Roadster delivers the same exceptional performance offered in the Coupe and more refinement than any other Z convertible that has come before," said Jeff Parent, vice president of sales and marketing, Nissan Canada Inc. "Features such as its one-touch, auto-locking convertible top and beautifully crafted interior might be unexpected in a car this sporty."

The Z(R) Roadster is expected in Canadian Nissan dealerships in late summer.

METRO NEWS SERVICES

Paint the pickup green

JIM ROBINSON
for Metro Canada

There will always be a sunrise.

There will always be an England.

And there will always be pickup trucks.

Sure, truck sales are off but an interesting thing is happening south of the border, and to a lesser extent here. Pickup truck sales (but not SUVs) are on the upswing.

As soon as the price of fuel started to drop, Americans began buying pickups again.

So it turns out it's the cost of fuel, not vehicle price, that's a determining factor in truck purchasing.

And, frankly, when Prime Minister Stephen Harper's federal infrastructure money starts flowing, people won't be hauling wallboard and cement mixers to the job site in Honda Civics. They're going to need a pickup.

However, there is still the uncertain cost of fuel.

2009 Chevy Silverado Hybrid

So the question is whether or not you can have your pickup cake and eat it too.

General Motors is alone in offered a full-size hybrid pickup that can tow up to 6,100 lb and get up to 9L/100 km on the highway. I know because I did it.

GM's green trucks are based on the 2-Mode Hybrid System currently found in the GMC Yukon and Sierra, Chevrolet Tahoe and Silverado (tested here) and Cadillac Escalade.

This is a "full" hybrid system, in that it can operate on electric power, gasoline power or a combination of both for a claimed saving of up to 25 per cent.

EARTH DAY: APRIL 22
Go Green

While the GM Hybrid system is one of several affordable hybrid technologies, it is the most adaptable for large vehicles. In fact the 2-Mode hybrid system was adapted and refined from the hybrid technology GM has used in city buses since 2003. It is now the first hybrid system used in a full-size SUV.

The Hybrid's drivetrain is the sum of three main components, each of which works together to provide seamless, economical and comfortable operation that goes virtually unnoticed by the driver and passengers. The components are an Electrically Variable Transmission (EVT), an Energy Storage System (ESS) and the Vortec 6.0-litre Gen IV V8 engine with Active Fuel Management (AFM). The AFM allows it to run on only four cylinders for light-energy demands.

At all times, the 2-Mode Hybrid system collects torque-based data, deciphers it, and then determines the most fuel-efficient means of propelling the vehicle.

This results in a number of ways to save fuel such as: engine off at idle; electric-only propulsion to 48 km/h in light load conditions; electric boosting during acceleration blends with engine power to save fuel; cutting off fuel to the engine during vehicle deceleration; active fuel management cylinder deactivation technology; and regenerative braking and engine speed and load control.

The Silverado Hybrid has a fuel rating of 10.5L/100 km (27 mpg) city and 9.8L/100 km (29 mpg) highway.

2009 Chevy Silverado 2-Mode Hybrid

Type: Full-size SUV
Price: Base, $50,875. As tested, $52,445 including $1,300 shipping fee
Engine: 6.0-litre, DOHC V8/electric motor (332 hp, 367 lb/ft)

Highlights

- Affordable hybrid system for a pickup
- Many standard features

FCX Clarity, Golf tops in the world

AWARDS The all-new Volkswagen Golf edged out the Toyota iQ and the Ford Fiesta to bag the 2009 World Car of the Year title at the recent New York International Auto Show.

The sixth generation Golf made its first appearance at the Paris Motor Show last fall, and was unveiled in North America at the Canadian International Auto Show in Toronto this February.

The new Golf will be coming to Canada this fall as a 2010 model.

Honda's FCX Clarity took home the eco-friendly honours in New York as it was named the 2009 World Green Car.

The FCX Clarity, a sleekly styled hydrogen fuel cell-powered sedan currently available on a limited lease-basis, is powered by an electric motor that runs on electricity generated by an on-board fuel cell stack.

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Actress Jamie Lee Curtis poses with Honda's FCX Clarity.

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Fun heart of Soul

Kia impresses with new compact SUV

EMMA E FORREST
Metro World News

One of several new boxy cars coming out, this new Kia is not just full of soul, it's stylish and it's also a huge amount of fun.

The Korean carmaker's compact SUV is its most distinctive design yet and set to be a trailblazer for the brand.

New design director and Audi TT designer Peter Schreyer has produced a striking car with faux-4x4 credentials. It has boxy looks along the same lines as the Nissan Cube, Honda Element and Scion xB, is high off the road and it also offers the same in-town practicality as a 4x4, but is obviously cheaper to buy and far more economical — and ecological — than a real off-roader.

There's a selection of fun coloured exteriors and original interiors — including a dogstooth pattern. There are three special editions including the Diva and Samba, but it's the Soul's Burner that's the bomb — this bad boy comes in black with red highlights, a dragon design on the outside, hot black wheels and a flashy red and white interior.

This model also has a brilliant feature — red lights in the speakers that flash in time with the music you're listening to.

These things are essential for the type of driver that Kia expects to appeal to, a young, urban crowd like you, who will want to ferry their friends around and maybe not mind so much that the boot won't fit more than one baby buggy. It all adds to the fun experience of driving this car — it feels solid, but is also nippy and agile.

2010 Kia Soul

Type: Compact SUV
Price: from $15, 495
Engine: 1.6 litre
HP: 124 bhp

Highlights

- Wallet-friendly, eco-friendly off-roader
- Fun to drive

Metro Global Motoring Editor Emma E Forrest poses with the 2010 Kia Soul

Carbon fibre catching on

AutoPilot

At first blush the just-released Mercedes-Benz SLR Stirling Moss might not appear to be the ideal subject to discuss today ... today being Earth Day.

Some of you might even suggest that such an extravagant vehicle shouldn't even be built in the first place. Well, you sort of have your wish, because they're only making 75 of them. There, happy now?

But everyone and everything has a part to play in moving towards more Earth-respectful human mobility — even, surprisingly, a $500,000-plus sports car that can only carry two people and about 18 minutes worth of luggage.

The part played by this, and the other models in the SLR range (roadster and coupe), is advancing the use of carbon fibre in "mass produced" production vehicles.

Carbon fibre is incredibly strong and stiff for its weight. As such, it's become the material of choice for such things as hockey sticks, tennis and badminton racquets, and now bicycles frames. (I play a bit of hockey and badminton, so when they get around to making a beer bottle out of the stuff, I figure my leisure time will be carbon-fibre complete.)

"Carbon fibre is incredibly strong and stiff for its weight."

Its strength comes from the way it's made — strands are layered and woven together in specific patterns, and each time out, it's done differently, to precisely fit the task at hand. Not dissimilar to the way Mother Nature goes about building her stuff.

But such a customized and fussy process, adds much cost and time. And the raw material for carbon fibre is already way more expensive than aluminum or steel.

The SLR is unique not only because its body panels are made of carbon fibre, but also its superstructure. This body shell is made by McLaren — the same firm that builds McLaren F1 racing cars. F1 is where all the big envelope pushing gets done, when it comes to carbon fibre and four wheels.

Mercedes and McLaren have developed material and process systems to speed up both the creation and assembly of carbon fibre components. The team took their cues from the textile industry, as some of the automated systems resemble weaving machines.

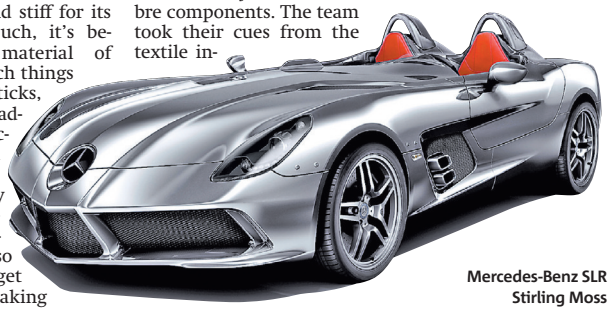
High heat areas, such as engines and exhausts, will always be made of metal for the foreseeable future, but how about everything else?

In an email interview, James Banks, Mercedes' body function manager, said, "It is quite feasible that small structural parts could start appearing on production cars within the next few years … Personally, I believe carbon fibre crash systems and class A bodywork are the two areas of the automobile that are likely to see the biggest advances in the coming years."

When this does happen, it will be another example of trickle-down technology, in the constant pursuit to make all cars safer and lighter and more fuel-efficient.

And if you have to build something high, to get the necessary gravity, you could do worse than this gorgeous SLR, built as a homage to the original SLR that racing legend, Stirling Moss, which famously drove to a succession of victories in 1955.

Michael Goetz has been writing about cars and editing automotive publications for more than 20 years. He lives in Toronto with his family and a neglected 1967 Jaguar E-type.



Mercedes-Benz SLR Stirling Moss

MyKey: Putting brakes on teen drivers

JIL MCINTOSH
for Metro Canada

When your teenager takes out the family car, you may not always know where he is. But thanks to Ford's new MyKey system, you'll have a better idea of what he's doing.

Debuting on the 2010 Focus and planned for several more models, MyKey is a no-charge standard feature that limits the car's top speed, prevents the traction control from being disabled, chimes warnings at pre-set speeds, encourages seatbelt use, and caps the volume on the audio system. It works through the message centre in the instrument cluster, and is invisible to drivers who don't want to use it.

Parents program keys through the ignition, turning them into "MyKey keys." These trigger the pre-set system when they're used to start the car, limiting what the vehicle will do.

One key always remains the "administrator," and is used to program others; it also lets parents operate the vehicle without limits. The MyKeys can be wiped clean or reprogrammed at any time, if desired. Any microchipped key can become a MyKey, whether it's one of the keys that comes with the car, or purchased from the dealer.

Ford's innovative technology MyKey will be a standard feature on the 2010 Focus.

Starting the car with a MyKey always triggers three automatic defaults. The regular seatbelt reminder chimes, but the stereo won't work until the driver has buckled up, as well as any front-seat passenger. The low-fuel warning comes on at 120 km to empty, rather than the usual 80 km notice. And if the vehicle is equipped with special safety features such as Park Aid or the new Blind Spot Information System, these can't be disabled by the driver.

Beyond those, parents can also program in speed alert chimes at 72, 88 or 105 km/h; the inability to disable the traction control; a limit of 44 per cent of the stereo's volume; and a limited top speed of 130 km/h.

And if your teen's a technology wizard, fear not. "The system tracks the kilometres, and so the parents can see if the MyKey is being used," said Kerri Stoakley, Ford's communications manager.

Research found that while most teens initially disliked the system, they were more in favour if they thought it would lead to greater driving privileges.

"Buckle up, watch your speed, and turn down the radio are the three things parents ask," Stoakley said. "So mom and dad might give more seat time with the system. It's a good reminder to children that they need to drive safely."

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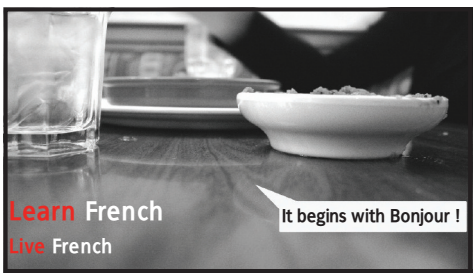

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Porsche thrills for the people

MARK ATKINSON
for Metro Canada

When Porsche announced it was pulling out of most major auto shows, including February's Canadian International Auto Show in Toronto, it caused waves in the industry.

In an effort to thrill would-be customers into buying, the company decided to throw its full weight behind its World Roadshow, a travelling circus of Porsche vehicles and personnel that provides the ultimate test drive.

While this is the roadshow's 11th year, it's being held in Canada for the first time. The event kicked off last week at the Mosport International Raceway near Toronto and is scheduled to end this Friday.

The goal is to run 350 prospective buyers through a one-day program, in the hope, as one official put it, of spreading "the Porsche virus."

The program involves different activities, ranging from performance testing a 911 Turbo Cabriolet, to using a Cayman S or Boxter S around a slalom course, to off-road driving with a number of Cayenne models, and, of course, lapping Mosport's challenging four-km circuit.

The Cayenne was among Porsche's fleet at the World Roadshow.

"(People) experience for themselves just what makes our vehicles so special."
Porsche Canada's Jasmin Rawlinson

The machines in use to pound around the road course are a great mix of models, from a basic-but-focused 911 C2S with sport-chrono package and six-speed manual, to a more relaxed 911 Targa 4 with PDK, Porsche's new twin-clutch automatic gearbox.

There was a full-on track-oriented Cayman S with body-hugging one-piece sport seats, PDK and carbon brakes that was a real favourite on media day, while the bright-copper Cayenne GTS at the tail didn't hold anyone up, with the large SUV easily hitting 190 km/h up the Andretti Straight.

"The Porsche World Roadshow is a large, ambitious event," said Jasmin Rawlinson, Porsche Canada's director of marketing.

"Experience with the roadshow in other countries has proven the best way to sell Porsches is to put people behind the wheel. This way, they experience for themselves just what makes our vehicles so special."

Porsche Canada is hoping for to attract a good number of orders from the event, especially as "eighty-plus per cent of the people sent to the event have never owned a Porsche before," Laurance Yap, public relations manager for Porsche Canada, explains.

Porsche Canada allowed its would-be customers to test drive its models at the World Roadshow.

Daimler testing car2go

TESTING Daimler is bringing its innovative mobility concept to the U.S. by the fall of this year.

The first international pilot will start in the Texas capital Austin with an initial fleet of about 200 fuel-efficient smart fortwo cars.

Called car2go, it provides a simple, flexible, and cost-effective solution for city driving. The U.S. introduction coincides with the expansion of the pilot in Ulm, Germany, where the company opened the service to the public on March 26 after the internal test which started last October.

The car2go concept is based on a fleet of Smart fortwo vehicles which are available for rent to registered members at any time, 24/7, making city driving as easy as using a mobile phone.

Contrary to traditional car-sharing programs, car2go offers the freedom to get in a car and drive at any time of day without reserving a car in advance.

The vehicle can then be used for as long as required and returned to any available parking location within the defined area of operation, a mobility solution offering maximum flexibility.

FROM CARGUIDE

Daimler will bring its innovative mobility concept to the U.S. by the fall this year with an initial fleet of about 200 fuel-efficient Smart fortwo cars available for rent to members.

Quick recovery for Madonna

Don't worry about Madonna, who fell off a horse in the Hamptons over the weekend. Her trainer Tracy Anderson told Usmagazine.com that the singer will be back in the gym today. USMAGAZINE.COM

Entertainment

Foot Chase

Gossip Girl star Chace Crawford is apparently ready to star in a remake of Footloose, but the producers are having trouble scheduling it around the filming of his television work. EONLINE.COM

EDITOR: DEAN.LISK@METRONEWS.CA

Earth hits big screen

New doc an impressive companion piece to BBC series

Earth

Director: Alastair Fothergill, Mark Linefield
Stars: James Earl Jones and a variety of cuddly animals
Classification: G
Rating:

PHIL BROWN
for Metro Canada

EARTH DAY: APRIL 22
Go Green

Filmed at the same time as the BBC series Planet Earth, Alastair Fothergill and Mark Linefield's Earth is a remarkable achievement of nature documentary filmmaking.

The movie is filled with the beautiful cinematography that defined Planet Earth even if it isn't quite as intellectually satisfying.

It is impossible to watch Earth without comparing it to its predecessor, and while the confines of a 90-minute movie funded by Disney prevents the filmmakers from capturing the depth of the series, this is still an impressive companion piece that demands to be seen on the big screen.

The longer running time and family-focus of this feature forced the filmmakers to construct a narrative out of the footage captured for Earth. Fothergill and Linefield have structured their film around three families of animals (polar bears, whales, and elephants) embarking on epic journeys across their natural habitats.

The narrative device works, but limits what the filmmakers are able to explore thematically and the animals are given human qualities in a manner that creates unfavorable comparisons to March Of The Penguins. It's an outdated nature documentary technique that hurts the film ever so slightly, but can probably be attributed to Disney's involvement in the project and not the filmmakers.

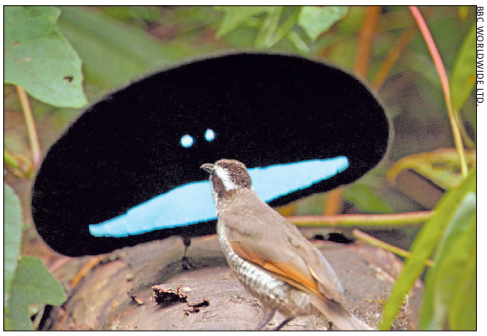
Despite a questionable storytelling device, Earth is still a remarkable achievement. The stunning high definition photography that sold countless copies of Planet Earth Blu-rays really comes alive on the big screen.

This is a film that simply must be seen in a theater and will hopefully find a wider audience than most nature documentaries. James Earl Jones' commanding voice provides the narration that links the movie together (oddly Patrick Stewart narrated the movie in Europe, but not here) and just might cause audiences to burst into applause when he utters "the circle of life."

Though hardly perfect and less impressive than it's small screen predecessor, Earth is still a wonderful film sure to please family audiences tired of the usual Zac Efron tripe.

Screen times

- Coliseum Ottawa: Wed-Thu 5:10-7:30-9:50; Empire 7 Cinemas: Wed-Thu 3:40-7:20-9:40; South Keys: Wed-Thu 10:35-1-3:30-7-9:30; Gatineau 9: Wed-Thu 7:15-9:15; StarCité Hull: Wed-Thu 12:25-2:45-5-7:15-9:30; SilverCity Gloucester: Wed-Thu 12-2:20-4:45-7:10-9:40; Kanata 24: Wed-Thu 2:30-4:45-7-9:30
- Times are subject to change. Complete listings are available at metronews.ca/movies.



BBC WORLDWIDE LTD.

A male Superb Bird of Paradise displays its feathers to attract a mate in the new documentary Earth.

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Rideau Centre
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Julie Chen is pregnant
Fans of Julie Chen have been anticipating it for years, and the news is finally here: The Early Show and Big Brother host is pregnant, according to Page Six. She and husband Les Moonves are expecting the child in October. METRO WORLD NEWS

Ford teams up for the earth

Actor and long-time activist highlights his new green world campaign

ELISABETH BRAW
Metro World News

He immortalized Indiana Jones. He has been People Magazine's Sexiest Man Alive.

One of the most successful film actors of all time, Harrison Ford is also a long-time environmental activist. Recently he waxed his chest in a TV commercial to highlight the effects of deforestation. Now Ford unveils — in a Metro exclusive — his new environmental campaign: Team Earth.

Team Earth (teamearth.org) will launch worldwide on World Environment Day, June 5.

Q How is Team Earth different from other green campaigns?

A We're trying to bring together people from every avenue of life, for example young people, corporations and politicians. We want to bring everyone together into the environmental discussion. The common good isn't served by the actions of individuals, no matter how right you are and how well you conduct your personal life.

Q Why did you decide to get involved?

A I've been deeply involved in environmental issues for a long time, so it was an easy decision. I sit on the board of Conservation International, and that's a board where you don't just sit; you act.

Q Do you have a green lifestyle?

A I do what I can. I recycle and do other everyday things. I fly an airplane, but I buy carbon credits, though I must say I'm not totally convinced by the concept of carbon credits.

Q We're constantly told to drive less and consume less energy. What else can regular people do to help the environment?

A Conserve and protect water. Reduce waste. Don't buy products with toxic materials. The Earth can no longer provide us with the services we're used to, and we have to come together as a powerful political force to make politicians understand that. We have to make it clear to them that the environment is a priority.

A message from the new Team Earth campaign, which will launch worldwide in June. One of its proponent is actor Harrison Ford, left.

Q You're currently filming Crowley, about a couple trying to find a cure for their children's genetic disorder, co-starring Kerri Russell and Brendan Fraser. Will there be another Indiana Jones film?

A I don't know. If someone gets a good idea, we'll do it!

Actors union planning lay offs

LOS ANGELES Just days after its national board approved a new contract for television and film, the Screen Actors Guild said it plans to lay off about 35 employees, or about eight per cent of the staff.

"To close a gap between the guild's expected revenue and costs in the upcoming fiscal year budget, SAG is undertaking a number of expense reductions, including the elimination of some staff positions," SAG spokesperson Pamela Greenwalt said Monday. "This is a difficult but necessary step that must be taken to responsibly address the fiscal realities confronting our organization."

On Saturday, the national board approved a $60 million annual budget even as it contends with a $6.5 million operating deficit for fiscal 2009.

The pink slips come at a tumultuous time for the union, which has suffered from a year of destructive internal political struggles, declining revenue from dues and investments and a slowdown in film work for actors. HOLLYWOOD REPORTER

Kenya's Style

Kenya Hunt
Read the blog at metronews.ca/kenyasstyle

For complete online movie listings, trailers, reviews and tickets, visit:
metronews.ca/movies

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OT	Vu	SC	C		7:00	7:30	8:00	8:30	9:00	9:30	10:00	10:30	11:00
primetime 4/22/09	265	353	2	TVO	Lemur Street	Lemur Street	The Agenda With Steve Paikin		The Last Enemy (N)		Human Edge "Deliver Us From Evil" (N)		
	211	331	3	GTV	ET Canada	Entertainment	Lie to Me "Better Half"		Bones (HDTV PA) (N)		(10:02) The Unusuals		News
	-	-	5	SRC	Virginie (SC)	L'Épicerie	La Petite Séduction (N) (SC)		Tous Pour Un (HDTV) (N) (SC)		Le Téléjournal et Les Nou		La Zone
	209	342	6	CHRO	Instant Star	TMZ (N)	America's Next Top Model (N)		Lost (HDTV) (N)		Law & Order "Pledge"		Comedy Now
	196	311	7	CTV	Hollywood	etalk	CSI: NY		American Idol		Criminal Minds (N)		News (N)
	208	303	8	CBC	NHL Hockey Eastern Conference Quarterfinal Game 4 -- Boston Bruins at Montreal Canadiens.						CBC News: The National		The Hour
	-	360	9	NBC	Wheel-Fortune	Jeopardy! (N)	Law & Order (HDTV)		Law & Order: SVU		Law & Order "Pledge"		News (N)
	117	713	10	TVA	Poule-oeufs or	Marché	La Collection (N)		Nos étés L'été s'écoule. (N)		TVA 22 heures	(10:45) Denis Lévesque	
	-	-	11	QS	Loft Story	La Maison de	Le Mur "Hole in the Wall"		Drôle et sexy	Californication	Cent dix pour cent (SC)		Loft Story
	137	763	12	TFO	Panorama		Destination Nor'Ouest (SC)		*L'Orphelin d'Anyang* (2001, Com. dramatique)			Folie-aventure	L'imagerie
	-	362	13	CBS	Dr. Phil (HDTV) (N)		Old Christine	Gary Unmarr	Criminal Minds (HDTV)		Criminal Minds (N)		Two/Half Men
	216	395	14	OMN2	Raymond	Raymond	News (N)		News (N)		Two/Half Men	King	Cold Case
	214	344	15	CITY	Law & Order: SVU		Scrubs	Friends	Nip/Tuck (HDTV)		Murdoch Mysteries (HDTV)		News (N)
	115	343	16	CFMT	Two/Half Men	The Simpsons	News (N)		Vivere Il	News (N)	The Simpsons	King of the Hill	Metropia
	218	345	18	E!	The Insider (N)	E! News	Better Off Ted	Better Off Ted	Janice Dickinson Modeling		Running-Heels	Kardashians	News (N)
	-	361	20	ABC	News (N)	Entertainment	Scrubs	Better Off Ted	Lost (HDTV) (N)		(10:02) The Unusuals		News (N)
	512	396	24	CPAC	La Période de questions		Heure polit.	L'Heure politique				Revue	Période-quest.
	651	355	25	CTS	Happy Days	Laverne	Michael Coren Show		100 Huntley Street		Life Today	This Is Day	John Hagee
	-	365	36	FOX	TMZ (N)	Seinfeld	Lie to Me "Better Half"		American Idol		News (N)		News
	-	-	64	PBS	All-Star Auction								
news	205	312	104	CTV	Hollywood	etalk	CSI: NY		American Idol		Criminal Minds (N)		News (N)
	502	390	26	NW	CBC News	Newman	Planet Earth		CBC News: The National		CBC News: The National		National
	500	500	33	CNN	Lou Dobbs Tonight		Campbell Brown: No Bias		Larry King Live (N)		Anderson Cooper 360 (HDTV)		
sports	406	417	27	net	MLB Baseball Texas Rangers at Toronto Blue Jays. From Rogers Centre in Toronto.						Sportsnet Con.	Sportsnet Con.	Hockey Central
	126	730	28	RDI	24 Heures en 60 minutes		Grands reportages (SC)		Le Téléjournal (SC)		RDI en direct	Le National	Le Téléjournal
	400	280	30	TSN	NHL Hockey: Eastern Conference Quarterfinal Game 4 -- Capitals at Rangers					SportsCentre	NHL Hockey: Conf. Quarterfinal		
	410	403	52	SCR	Aussie Millions '09		Score Update		Score Update		Score Tonight		Hockey Talk
family	411	457	56	OLN	Bounty Hunter	Bounty Hunter	Departures		Mantracker	Mantracker	Bounty Hunter	Bounty Hunter	Departures
	417	406	59	SC	Drag Race	Drag Race	Drag Race	Drag Race	Drag Race	Drag Race	Drag Race	Wrecked	Pimp My Ride
	554	544	48	TEL	Totally Spies	Total Drama	6TEEN	6TEEN	Futurama	American Dad	Robot Chicken	Father of Pride	Moral Orel
	557	540	51	FAM	Wizards-Place	Han. Montana	Zack & Cody	Latest Buzz	Wizards-Place	Life Derek	Ned's School	Cory in House	Zack & Cody
	551	542	65	YTV	In Real Life "E.R."		Malcolm-Mid.	Futurama	Karaoke Star Junior		Falcon Beach		Mystery Hnt.
cable variety	570	580	29	MM	The Daily Fix		Ranked!		Gimme Sugar	Gimme Sugar	Entourage	Gene Simmons	The Daily Fix
	615	520	31	A&E	CSI: Miami "Nailed"		Bounty Hunter	Bounty Hunter	Bounty Hunter	Bounty Hunter	Bounty Hunter	Exterminators	Exterminators
	628	584	32	SPKE	CSI: Crime Scene Invstgtn.		CSI: Crime Scene Invstgtn.		UFC Unleashed		The Ultimate Fighter (N)		Warrior
	521	560	34	TLC	Mystery Diagnosis		Jon & Kate Plus 8 Go Green!		Jon & Kate	Jon & Kate	Moving Up (HDTV)		Jon & Kate
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	616	521	39	SHO	The Outer Limits		Cashing In	About a Girl	G-Spot	Cock'd Gunns	The Starter Wife (HDTV)		House
	620	523	40	BVO	The Achievers	Landscape	Arts & Minds	Bravo!Videos	Wingfield	Wingfield	Southland		Law & Order
	520	505	42	DIS	Daily Planet (N)		Dirty Jobs		Deadliest Catch		Mayday "Invisible Killer"		Daily Planet
	575	583	43	CMT	CMT's Greatest Videos		Home Improve.	Home Improve.	Reba	Reba	Hope & Faith	Hope & Faith	Totally "2002"
	601	562	45	SLC	Skin Deep	Til Debt-Part	Chop Shop	End of Leash	End of Leash	End of Leash	End of Leash	End of Leash	ET Canada
	625	548	46	COM	Air Farce	Just for Laughs		Corner Gas	The Simpsons	South Park	Jon Dore Show	Demetri Martin	Daily Show
	294	529	47	TBS	House-Payne	House-Payne	*Crimson Tide* ★★★ (1995, Suspense) Denzel Washington.					Steve Harvey	Seinfeld
	600	564	49	H&G	House Hunters	Property Virgin	Big City Broker	The Stagers	Unsellable	Hid Potential	House Hunters	House Hunters	Holmes-Homes
	627	528	50	SPC	Stargate Atlantis (DVS)		Star Trek: Voyager		Primeval		Stormworld (N)	Grand Star	Stargate SG-1
	581	566	53	MTV	Mom & Dad	After	MTV News	Cribs	Fantasy Fact.	Nitro Circus	Real World-Road Rules		MTV Live
	618	524	54	TROP	Vanity Insanity	Ad Persuasion	Ad Persuasion	Seinfeld	Seinfeld	Raymond	Family Guy	Married... With	Seinfeld
	522	506	55	HIS	NCIS		Life After People				NCIS		Sea Hunters
	129	773	60	CD	Biographies (HDTV)		Mythes urbains	Mythes urbains	Science de l'incroyable (HDTV)		Experts en crime (HDTV)		Vidéo
	261	394	61	V	Murder, She Wrote		Keeping Up	Foot in Grave	All About George (N)		Driven-Vision	Supernatural	Poltergeist
	602	567	62	W	Will & Grace	Friends	Grocery Bag	Grocery Bag	Supersize vs. Superskinny		Stuck (N)	Maxed Out	Maxed Out
	269	350	70	APTN	Canadian Geographic		Journey: Paddle-Quwatsun		500 Nations (Part 4 of 8)		Miywayawin	Find. Our Talk	Wings-Canada
	621	527	71	TLK	The Ellen DeGeneres Show (N)		TMZ (N)	etalk	100 Sexiest Stars		The Tonight Show-Jay Leno		TMZ
	603	561	95	FN	Chef at Home	Fresh-Anna	Diner, Drive-In	Diner, Drive-In	Iron Chef America		Ultimate Recipe Showdown		Opening Soon

critics'corner

The New Adventures of Old Christine
Ex-husband Richard (Clark Gregg) joins Christine (Julia Louis-Dreyfus) on a dinner date with her new boyfriend, Patrick (guest star Tim DeKay, "Tell Me You Love Me"), in "So You Think You Can Date." Hamish Linklater, Emily Rutherfurd and Wanda Sykes also star. 8 PM on 13 CBS

Gary Unmarried
Against his better judgment, Gary (Jay Mohr) allows Allison (Paula Marshall) to persuade him to pretend they are still married when they attend a friend's vow renewal ceremony, but he is hard-pressed to keep their secret when he runs into a beautiful new divorcee. Jean Louisa Kelly ("Yes, Dear") guest stars in "Gary and Allison Brooks." 8:30 PM on 13 CBS

Law & Order
After a plaintiff in a long-delayed class action lawsuit against an airline is found shot to death in his car, Detectives Lupo and Bernard's (Jeremy Sisto, Anthony Anderson) investigation leads them to a ruthless attorney who represents other plaintiffs the victim may have been trying to cut out of the settlement. 8 PM on 9 NBC

Baby on way for Gruffudd

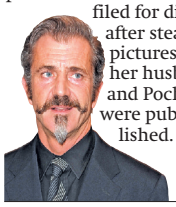
Welsh actor Ioan Gruffudd, who starred in Fantastic Four, and his English wife, actress Alice Evans, are expecting a baby, his rep confirms to People. This will be the first child for the couple. METRO NEWS SERVICES

Celebrity Buzz

Mel's lover keeps steamy sex diary?

RUMOUR The woman claiming to be Mel Gibson's mistress, Russian singer Oksana Pochepa, reportedly keeps a diary of all her sexual activity — and isn't shy about sharing it.

"She once showed me the diary and I could barely believe it," a source tells the Sun. "Sex is the main thing for her." It's been reported that Gibson's wife filed for divorce after steamy pictures of her husband and Pochepa were published. METRO WORLD NEWS



JT and Jessica still together

RELATIONSHIP Ever since Justin Timberlake was spotted "very much acting like a single guy" at Kate Hudson's star-studded 30th birthday party over the weekend, according to Us Weekly, rumors have been swirling that he and girlfriend Jessica Biel have split up.

But friends of the couple say that couldn't be further from the truth. "They have not split," a source says, according to Hollyscoop.

Another adds: "Things are very good with them. They do things separately sometimes." METRO WORLD NEWS

Lindsay goes burlesque?

CAREER Lindsay Lohan has sparked rumours she's signed on to appear in a new topless Las Vegas stage act, femalefirst.co.uk reports.

The star, 22, reportedly flew to Sin City on Saturday to attend the grand opening of sexy striptease production Peepshow and meet with its creator, Broadway director and choreographer Jerry Mitchell.

Former Spice Girl Melanie Brown kicked off her stint in the show last week, which features celebrities in rotating lead roles.

According to Fox News, Lohan is in talks with Mitchell to take over from actress Kelly Monaco when the star leaves the show to return to U.S. soap opera General Hospital.

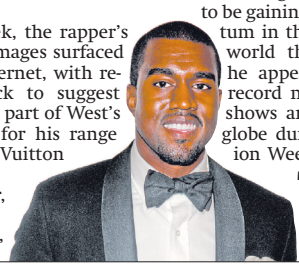
A spokesperson for Lohan had not returned requests for comment.

Lohan has seen her acting career almost disappear in the last 12 months, with her last movie, I Know Who Killed Me, universally panned; Lohan's performance garnered her a Razzie. METRO NEWS SERVICES

Naked pics no shoe ad

SCANDAL The pictures of Kanye West and his naked girlfriend, Amber Rose are not for a Louis Vuitton campaign, as originally thought, femalefirst.co.uk reports.

Last week, the rapper's personal images surfaced on the Internet, with reports quick to suggest that it was part of West's campaign for his range of Louis Vuitton sneakers.



However, according to The Cut, sources have confirmed to them that the images are not part of any campaign for the fashion house.

West's desire to ditch music for designing seems to be gaining momentum in the fashion world though, as he appeared at a record number of shows around the globe during Fashion Week season. METRO NEWS SERVICES

Farrah's worried son overreacts: Pal

PEOPLE Farrah Fawcett's best friend Alana Stewart has dismissed claims made by the actress' son in court, telling a judge his mom's cancer problems had reduced her to a skeletal 86 pounds, femalefirst.co.uk reports.

Redmond O'Neal made the shocking claim in court last week during a hearing stemming from drug charges against him, but Stewart insists the 24-year-old is mistaken.

She tells people.com, "Farrah is not 86 pounds. Redmond is young and overreacted a little. Farrah has lost weight, but not that much."

Stewart has revealed Fawcett is planning to pay back O'Neal's father — her ex Ryan — for all his support by hosting a 68th birthday party for the actor on Monday.

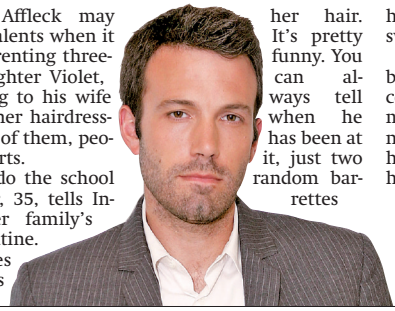
"Ryan has really been there for Farrah in such a wonderful way." She also insists her cancer-stricken pal is on the path to recovery following a hospital stay at the beginning of the month.

She explains, "I just saw her ... She had colour in her face and was talking and laughing." METRO NEWS SERVICES

Life at the Affleck-Garner home

FAMILY Ben Affleck may have many talents when it comes to parenting three-year-old daughter Violet, but according to his wife Jennifer Garner hairdressing isn't one of them, people.com reports.

"Ben will do the school run," Garner, 35, tells InStyle of her family's morning routine. "He dresses her and does her hair. It's pretty funny. You can always tell when he has been at it, just two random barrettes hanging in there. It's so sweet."



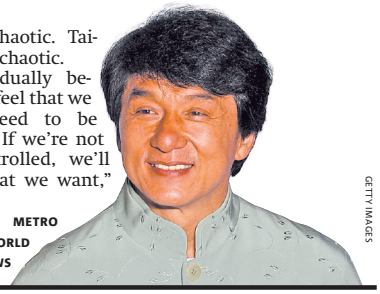
Adds Garner: "Ben can be pretty clueless when it comes to my clothes or makeup. But when he does notice and says something, he's so sweet that I forgive him." METRO NEWS SERVICES

Chinese ire over Chan's comments

OPINION Jackie Chan has been facing a good deal of backlash in his native country for comments he made last week at a business forum in Hainan, a southern Chinese island, according to MSNBC.

"I'm not sure if it's good to have freedom or not. If you're too free, you're like the way Hong Kong is now. It's very chaotic. Taiwan is also chaotic.

"I'm gradually beginning to feel that we Chinese need to be controlled. If we're not being controlled, we'll just do what we want," Chan said. METRO WORLD NEWS



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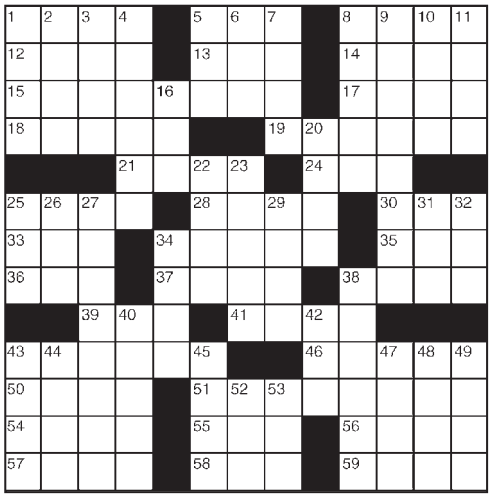
Take Five



Crossword across

1 Overly theatrical
5 Pitcher's chapeau
8 Memo writer's "Now!"
12 Eastern bigwig
13 Actor Tognazzi
14 "Monopoly" pair
15 Buck
17 Bullets
18 Switchblade
19 Wet
21 Notion
24 Work with
25 Equitable
28 Culture medium
30 Eve, originally
33 "— Lay Dying"
34 Eugene O'Neill specialty
35 Geological period
36 Emeril's interjection
37 Con
38 Showing signs of aging
39 Skillet
41 Advantage
43 Caviar provider
46 Point of view
50 Valhalla VIP
51 Didn't quite boil
54 Schism
55 Excessively
56 Peruse
57 Piano lineup
58 Picnic invader
59 Distorted

Crossword down

1 Barrel
2 Infamous Idi
3 "La Boheme" role
4 Gain
5 Prompt
6 Earlier
7 Frogs' hangout
8 Either of two presidents
9 One with a silly smile
10 Pinnacle
11 Laborer
16 Started
20 Emanation
22 Have coming
23 Marble variety
25 Poke
26 Dos Passos trilogy
27 Clear up
29 In the thick of
31 401(k) alternative
32 Cove
34 "Phooey!"
38 Groups of species
40 Some of the family
42 Whale group
43 Jurist Robert
44 Actress Falco
45 "The Thin Man" dog
47 Got bigger
48 Mad king of literature
49 Vortex
52 Charged bit
53 Witticism

Sudoku

For more/less challenging Sudoku puzzles, visit metronews.ca

HOW TO PLAY: Digits 1 through 9 will appear once in each zone – one zone is an outlined 3x3 grid within the larger puzzle grid. There are nine zones in the puzzle. Do not enter a digit into a box if it already appears elsewhere in the same zone, row across or column down the entire puzzle.

8		3		1				2
			2			1		
		5			6		4	
		9					8	
		2	1		7	4		
	6					7		
	1		7			6		
		7			8			
2				4		9		3

PREVIOUS DAY'S CROSSWORD AND SUDOKU ANSWERS:

7	9	4	6	1	3	5	8	2
6	3	8	9	2	5	1	4	7
1	2	5	4	8	7	9	3	6
2	8	7	5	3	9	6	1	4
5	6	9	7	4	1	8	2	3
3	4	1	2	6	8	7	5	9
8	5	6	3	9	2	4	7	1
4	7	3	1	5	6	2	9	8
9	1	2	8	7	4	3	6	5

Find today's answers + play more games at metronews.ca

SUDOKU SOLVE TIME:

Under 13 min .....Genius
13-17 min.....Scholar
17-21 min .....Smart
21-25 min.....Not bad
25+ min.....Keep practising

Metro Recipe of the Day

Pork with Mustard Sauce

INGREDIENTS:

1 tsp (5 mL) extra-virgin olive oil
4 boneless pork loin chops, 3/4 in. (2 cm) thick, trimmed of all fat
4 tbsp (60 mL) dry white wine or vermouth
1 garlic clove, minced
3/4 cup (175 mL) chicken or vegetable stock
2 tsp (10 mL) cornstarch mixed with 1 tbsp (15 mL) water
1/2 cup (125 mL) sour cream
1 tbsp (15 mL) Dijon mustard
1 tbsp (15 mL) chopped fresh tarragon
Salt and fresh-ground black pepper
Fresh chives

METHOD:

1. Heat oil in large nonstick frying pan over medium-high heat. Add pork chops and fry until brown, 3 minutes per side. Transfer to plate; set aside and keep warm.
2. Add wine or vermouth to pan with garlic and let bubble briefly. Pour in stock and boil 2 minutes. Stir together cornstarch mixture and sour cream until smooth. Add to hot cooking liquid, stirring well. Reduce heat and simmer, stirring constantly, until thick and smooth, 2 minutes. Stir in mustard and tarragon and season with salt and pepper to taste.
3. Return pork chops to sauce in the pan. Reduce heat to low, cover pan, and simmer until chops are cooked through, 4 to 5 minutes.
4. Arrange pork chops on warm plates and spoon sauce over. Garnish with chives.

SERVES 4

rd.ca

For nutritional information on this and other great recipes, go to **rd.ca** or check out **Key Ingredients in this month's Reader's Digest, on newsstands now!**

Horoscopes

AVATAR VENUS

ARIES ♈
MARCH 21-APRIL 20
Someone wants to protest but won't. You'll find out who has too much to do. A mysterious woman becomes cynical.

TAURUS ♉
APRIL 21-MAY 21
Plans are made but somebody is going to leave early. Refuse to wear yourself out for anyone. You'll be told things that you should already know.

GEMINI ♊
MAY 22-JUNE 21
You'll get credit for something you didn't do. Demanding people strongly affect your mood. Don't focus on a thoughtless remark.

CANCER ♋
JUNE 22-JULY 22
People want to know what needs to be done. It's time to be a visionary. Use your common sense.

LEO ♌
JULY 23-AUG 23
Someone wants to change your life. A frantic woman makes a phone call. You're not sure if something is true.

VIRGO ♍
AUG 24-SEPT 22
A player supplies some sensible advice. Someone makes you lose time. A rebel enjoys a truth-seeking session.

LIBRA ♎
SEPT 23-OCT 23
Happiness is found by someone in love. You'll work behind the scenes. Keep an open mind when you kick off a debate.

SCORPIO ♏
OCT 24-NOV 22
Don't be stubborn if you want to change your mind. Something complex sets off emotional responses. Things will work out for the best.

SAGITTARIUS ♐
NOV 23-DEC 21
You'll benefit from good luck. Don't strain the patience of a close friend. A determined stranger appears to be triumphant.

CAPRICORN ♑
DEC 22-JAN 20
An acquaintance is moody about attention-grabbing. An expert understands your feelings. A victim makes an admission of guilt.

AQUARIUS ♒
JAN 21-FEB 18
Prepare for a change after a friend offers support. A pitiless challenger won't panic. Budgeting could result in success.

PISCES ♓
FEB 19-MARCH 20
Obligations are questioned by someone with concerns. Provide support during a health crisis. Don't cringe about a money problem.

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Limited model shown

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Limited model shown

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